# FROM A MUSTARD SEED

## A History of the First Baptist Church Hamlet, North Carolina

Mrs. Bessie Hursey Nash

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## A History of the First Baptist Church

Hamlet, North Carolina

Mrs. Bessie Hursey Nash

*Author & Historian*

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First Baptist Church of Hamlet, N. C.

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# DEDICATION

Jacob Daniel Nash, Sr.

Dedicated to my husband whose love, understanding, help and encouragement has made it possible for this history to be written.

## PREFACE

When Rev. B. F. Broadway asked me in 1969 if I would write a history of the First Baptist Church of Hamlet, North Carolina, I had no idea what a task it would be. I assumed there were records from the time the church was organized and my task would consist of putting this information in chronological order. I was astonished to find there were very few early records prior to the construction of the present sanctuary. There were times when the undertaking seemed too arduous but having an interest in history and a deep love for my church, I continued the challenging task.

Some of the town's history is inter-woven with the church history as both had their beginnings in the same decade 1870-1880.

I make no claim at being an historian. I realize I have violated many rules of historical writing. An attempt has been made to keep this history factual but I fear many errors will be found.

It has been a labor of love for my life is richer for the new friends and contacts I have made in collecting the pictures and facts. I regret that so many members who deserve a place in this history could not be mentioned. The list would have been endless to name all who have been active in various church phases, or who have been generous with their time and money.

*Mrs. Bessie Hursey Nash*

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

To so many, I owe so much that I scarcely know where to begin. First may I say that without the "Baptist Collection" at Wake Forest University, the information herein would be rather meager. Copies of "The Biblical Recorder" from the year 1878 divulged numerous facts and figures. The "Pee Dee Association" minutes through the years were most helpful. Minutes of other than "Southern Baptist Convention" minutes also provided profitable information. Various histories on the "The Baptist" and the state Baptist publications were consulted. All these are in the "Baptist Collection" at Wake Forest University.

"The History of First Baptist Church" of Hamlet published in 1955 in celebration of Dr. J. B. Willis's thirty-three years as pastor, brief associational minutes by Mr. C. B. Deane through the year 1933, minutes of Deacon's meetings dating from 1939, issues of "The Voice," and minutes of church conferences since 1938 all revealed exciting dates, names, places, and events. "A History of Hamlet," a play written for the Hamlet Senior Citizens Club by Mrs. J. B. Willis (Margaret Hudnell), and some of Mr. Isaac London's articles on the history of Richmond County were also found to be beneficial.

Records in the Register of Deeds office in the Richmond County Courthouse in Rockingham, North Carolina were very helpful. I wish to thank Mrs. Agnes Carroll and her co-workers, especially Miss Nichols, for assisting me in finding many interesting documents.

The search for pictures of former pastors was most time consuming, but I am pleased that pictures of all pastors except the first, Rev. Thomas Benjamin Newberry, were eventually obtained. Many of these pictures came from old newspaper clippings made available through the cooperation of Miss Effie Ormsby of "Effie's Studio." I am grateful to her not only for her superb work but also for the generous and unselfish giving of her time.

Through contacts of members of former preachers' families and friends, the sketches of their lives were secured. I gratefully acknowledge this help and give the source of information on each pastor.

To Mr. Jerry Turner and Mr. Thomas Smart I wish to express my apreciation for their work in taking the pictures of the Sunday School classes, the Choirs, the Handbell Ringers, the J.O.Y. Rhythm Band and the Staff members.

My sincere thanks to Mrs. Margaret Smart for time spent in identifying members of Sunday School classes, Choirs and Handbell Ringers.

To Mrs. Beth Preslar a genuine "Thank you" for typing the manuscript. It was not an easy chore to read all my notes.

I cannot overlook the arduous task of proofreading all my material. To my sister, Miss Mertin Hursey, I owe a debt of gratitude.

For a picture of the second building of the Hamlet Baptist Church, I thank Mrs. Gladys Epting and Mr. Earl Owen, a former member of the First Baptist Church.

My sincere thanks to many friends who have supplied pictures, information, and suggestions. To those who have taken the time to read the history, I am deeply indebted.

For typing letters on securing bids for the book and other matters and for many helpful suggestions, I am very grateful to Mrs. Joyce Rivers, our pastor's wife.

Lastly I am very grateful to our pastor, Rev. Billy Rivers, for his time spent in reading the manuscript, his advice, his help in securing bids, and sharing his knowledge about matters of printing.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Mrs. Bessie Hursey Nash is one of Hamlet First Baptist Church's outstanding members. She is a dedicated Christian. Mrs. Nash was born in Chesterfield, South Carolina, August 14, 1904, daughter of John G. and Dora Rivers Hursey. She is a graduate of Chesterfield High School, finishing as valedictorian of her class. She received her Teacher's Certificate from Winthrop College, Rock Hill, S. C., and taught school in Chesterfield Elementary School. For several years, beginning in Feb. 1925, she was a clerk with the Veteran's Bureau (now the Veteran's Administration) in Columbia, S. C.

In 1926, she married Jacob Daniel Nash. They have two sons, Jacob Daniel Nash, Jr., born in 1929, and Robert Alfred Nash, born in 1932.

In 1931, Mrs. Nash and her husband moved to Hamlet, N. C. and united with the First Baptist Church. In 1942, she was employed by the U. S. Post Office as clerk where she remained until her retirement in 1966. Since her retirement, she and Mr. Nash have kept their Hamlet homebase, but have traveled widely. Since 1970, much travel and time have been spent in gathering information for the History of Hamlet First Baptist Church.

Mrs. Nash has a powerful belief in God. Her Christian witness has been felt in her home, her church, her community and wherever she has traveled. She has served her Church and denomination well as Sunday School teacher, circle leader and as Woman's Missionary Union President of the Pee Dee Baptist Association.

This book, "From a Mustard Seed," A History of Hamlet First Baptist Church, certainly reflects her patience in research and her willingness to do God's Will and to serve her church at great personal cost and sacrifice.

Billy G. Rivers
*Pastor*

## THE PASTOR'S MESSAGE

The church was brought into the world by our Lord to carry on the redemptive work of God under the leadership of the Holy Spirit. A magnificent testimony of what God's people united by His Spirit can do has been manifest here for many years. From a small beginning of twenty-seven members on September 28, 1878, until now, Hamlet First Baptist Church has been marvelously blessed with mission zeal and spiritual growth. The Spirit of God continues to run deep in the minds and hearts of the active members of this church. I strongly believe our greatest days lie ahead. "From a mustard seed" in the past to the challenge of the present, God has blessed us. Let us continue to realize that we are the church, and the success or failure of First Baptist depends upon us. The future of our church is as bright as the promises of God.

I am grateful to Mrs. Jacob Daniel (Bessie) Nash for writing the History of this wonderful Church and to Mr. Jacob Daniel Nash in accompanying his wife on the many trips while doing research, and for his patience and encouragement to her while writing.

Also, I wish to thank the Deacons and the Church members for having this history prepared and published.

Billy G. Rivers

# THE STAFF OF THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Seated: Rev. Billy G. Rivers, Pastor — Left to right (Standing - left to right - Mrs. Lynda Davenport, Church Secretary; Rev. J. S. Ritter, Jr., Youth Minister; and Mrs. C. R. Hayes, Music Director & Church Organist)

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# CHAPTER I

## A BRIEF LOOK AT BAPTISTS IN EARLY N.C.

The people of our nation are familiar with space rockets, moon shots, laser beams, communication satellites, color TV, and giant aircraft. Few are actually interested in the history of the builders of our cities, towns, churches and public buildings. Still fewer are concerned in the spiritual welfare of our nation.

In our great nation there are many churches and religions. Unless one is a Biblical scholar or historian, he knows few facts about his religion or denomination.

Members of the First Baptist Church of Hamlet are indebted to many faithful and dedicated torch bearers as we approach our centennial. Naturally, we would like to know whence the people called "Baptists" came to our section of the state and our town.

Looking backward one finds an historian, Morgan Edwards, who tells us there were Baptists in the colony of North Carolina as early as 1695. He records the fact that the first Baptist Church, of which we have a record, was organized in Camden County in 1727 by Paul Palmer. This church was called Shiloh. The next church was formed in 1729 at Meherrin in Hertford County.

Shubal Stearnes and a brother-in-law, David Marshall, came from Berkely County, Virginia, and organized a church at Sandy Creek in Chatham County in 1754. These two men traveled through North Carolina, South Carolina, and parts of Georgia preaching with such zeal that many were converted and churches were formed.

Records show that nine churches formed the Sandy Creek Association in 1758. Eight churches made up the Kehoukee Association in 1765. In 1776 at the beginning of the Revoluntionary War there were not fewer than forty Baptist churches.

Richmond County was created by the North Carolina Assembly at Halifax, N. C., on November 10, 1779. Until that time it had been a part of Anson County.

The first settlers in this area were Scotch Highlanders from the Cape Fear Valley who were seeking crop and grazing lands. At the same time English settlers moved down along the Pee Dee River into Richmond County. Some of these were perhaps converts of Shubal Stearnes and David Marshall.

Another group of people to influence this area was a company of 30 Welsh immigrants from Pennsylvania and Delaware who settled at Society Hill, South Carolina. They organized a society of Baptist faith and built a church. These people were zealous missionaries. Their zeal led them into North Carolina where many people were converted and many churches were formed.

## CHAPTER II

## SOME EARLY HISTORY OF HAMLET

From Mr. Isaac London's writings, one gets a breief history of Hamlet's beginning.

The first house was built by Angus L. McKinnon near the present location of the Carroll Saw Shop. At that time this site was known as "Sandbank" or "Sandhill." This house was later sold to John Shortridge, an Englishman, who had come to the states in 1838. He and his wife, Mary, found their way to Rockingham where he operated a woolen mill on Hitchcock Creek. Union soldiers burned this mill, and in 1872 he moved to Sandhill. He built both a woolen mill and a saw mill near the site where the municipal dam is now located. During the life time of Mr. R. M. Galloway, Sr., he pointed out to Dr. W. M. Pearce an old dam midway of the municipal lake, a little below the boat ramp. This dam is probably the site of the original mills and can be seen when the lake is low.

Mr. Shortridge imported wool from Australia, washed it in the creek, then made woolen yarn for men's clothing, which was boxed, sent by wagon teams to Fayetteville, and then by boat on the Cape Fear River to Wilmington. There it was loaded on ships going to Liverpool and other ports. "Sandhill" now became known as "Shortridge Mill."

One day in 1873 when Mr. Shortridge, Elisha (Champ) Terry, and Lauchlin L. McKinnon were talking, Mr. Shortridge recalled that in England a cluster of houses (10 or 12) was called a hamlet. He realized the tiny village was not large enough to be called a hamlet but felt it soon would be and perhaps it would eventually become a city. Mr. Shortridge christened the village "Hamlet." He planted a sycamore tree over which the three men jumped for luck. The tree was planted in what was known as Bridges Triangle and grew to be 11 feet 8 inches in circumference. This tree was cut down in 1946 to make room for a building.

The Wilmington-Charlotte-Rutherford Railroad, chartered in 1856, passed through Hamlet in 1867. Through the generosity of Mr. Shortridge, the Raleigh and Augusta Railroad was built through Hamlet. In 1876 he deeded land for a wy track, a right-of-way and acres of land including the land for the Seaboard Hotel for the sum of $1. Trains of the Raleigh and Augusta Railroad passed through Hamlet August 10, 1877.

Our church and others here owe a debt of gratitude to Mr. Shortridge for his gifts of the land on which our first churches were built.

The deed to the Hamlet Baptist Church was dated 12-21-78, probated 8-4-81 and recorded 8-30-81. It was made to trustees—Walter J. Wyatt, A. G. McKeithan, A. J. Taylor, and S. T. Barrentine in consideration of $1. The lot was located on what is now the 100 block of Charlotte Street. If one will observe closely between Raleigh and Wilmington Streets going West, on the right, there are brown blocks laid parallel to the street. Our first and second churches were built a short distance behind these blocks. The local cemetery was behind the church.

JOHN SHORTRIDGE

Mr. Shortridge possessed a beautiful melodeon. It looked like a piano but sounded like an organ. On Sundays this instrument was lent to places of worship. It is now a cherished possession of the Misses Janie, Polly, and Catherine McNair, the great granddaughters of Mr. Shortridge. They also have a photograph of Mr. Shortridge which has been duplicated for this history.

The Baptist and Methodist Churches were formed from a Union Sunday School which was organized by Mr. Shortridge in 1877 in a little house where the Belk Department Store was located on Hamlet Avenue. Rev. B. C. Phillips came from Laurinburg once a month to

preach. His remuneration was $5 a trip.

Mr. John Shortridge was born in Carlisle, England, in 1818. He came to this country with his mother in 1838. He married in Rhode Island from which he came to Rockingham where he was an overseer in Richmond Mill from 1847-1850. Records show he dabbled in real estate from 1861-1863, but his principal interest was in milling and acquiring water rights on Hitchcock Creek. He moved to Hamlet in 1871 where he built his woolen mill.

Frank Shortridge, a son of John Shortridge was Hamlet's first Postmaster. A grandson, R. B. Terry, was a Postmaster from 5-20-13 to 3-18-22. Bob Terry, a son of R. B. Terry, is a retired city carrier. Mrs. Mary Biggs of Hamlet is a daughter of R. B. Terry. Duncan McNair and sisters—Misses Polly, Janie, and Catherine McNair—are great grandchildren of Mr. Shortridge. Mr. John Shortridge of 317 Oak Street is a grandson. Also Mrs. May Flaherty and Mrs. Lillian Harmon of Hamlet are granddaughters of Mr. Shortridge.

Mr. John Shortridge died in 1882 and was buried in Old Town or Terry Cemetery on S. Lawrence Street, Rockingham, North Carolina. His wife was also buried there. In 1959 through the efforts of Mrs. John Shortridge and Mr. Isaac London, the bodies of Mr. and Mrs. Shortridge were moved to Mary Love Cemetery in Hamlet.

The town of Hamlet has erected a monument to the memory of Mr. Shortridge on East Hamlet Avenue near the City Lake, near the site of his woolen mill.

## CHAPTER III

## BAPTIST BEGINNINGS IN HAMLET

In the "Biblical Recorder" dated 10/2/78 Rev. Thomas Newberry wrote that he had just held a meeting at Hamlet with 24 accessions. In the "Biblical Recorder" dated 10/9/78 the following article was published:

"Rev. John Monroe and myself met the believing at Hamlet and constituted a Baptist Church on last Saturday with 27 names. Outlook good at this point. We have a Union Sunday School numbering 80 or 90 scholars. We have subscribed over $150 to build a church. The house perhaps will cost $300 when completed, or more—at least I should say to hull in; we can't complete before next year—whole cost perhaps will be $500 or $600.

"Can't you ask every Baptist Church in the state to send to Brother W. J. Wyatt at Hamlet, $1 each to help us finish our house?

"We will constitute at Hoffman's Depot second Sunday in October.

Signed T. B. Newberry
Rockingham, N. C.
September 30, 1878"

According to this article, the First Baptist Church of Hamlet, then the Hamlet Baptist Church, was constituted September 28, 1878. This date was determined by consulting a perpetual calendar.

Churches in Hamlet, Hoffman and Cool Springs applied for membership in the Pee Dee Association on Thursday October 17, 1878, at Mt. Gilead Church in Montgomery County. T. B. Newberry was listed as pastor at Hamlet and Hoffman. At this meeting the first report from the Hamlet Church was given—"J. G. McKeithan, clerk, 27 white church members, 90 Sunday School scholars, Foreign Missions $1.50, State Missions $1.50, Associational Missions $1."

It would be gratifying to know the names of the 27 charter members. A vigorous search up to this time has revealed only four names—W. J. Wyatt, A. G. McKeithan, A. J. Taylor and S. T. Barrentine, the trustees to whom Mr. Shortridge made the deed for the lot on which the first and second churches were erected.

The first Baptist Church was a one room structure, unpainted, approximately 20 x 50 feet. The benches in it were crudely made. From Rev. Newberry's letter dated September 30, 1878, one would assume the building was begun in 1878.

Did you realize there was a Baptist Orphanage at Mills Home as early as 1886? That year at the associational meeting, it was reported that there were 72 orphans in this home. The cost per child per month

was $3.50. The Pee Dee Association pledged for the coming year 1887—"State Missions $200, Home Missions $100, Foreign Missions $200, Education $120 and Baptist Orphanage $100." Of this amount the Hamlet Baptist Church was assessed $1.60 for State Missions, $2 for Foreign Missiions and $1 for Education.

In 1887 $6.85 was given to Associational Missions and Colportage. With this amount as a start Brother W. M. Thompson was engaged as a missionary to preach at Hamlet and Roberdel. At the next meeting in 1888 Brother Thompson reported "72 days of labor, 44 sermons preached, 70 professed conversions, collected $20 from Roberdel and $30 from Hamlet."

## CHAPTER IV

### FROM 1879-1900

It seems that there was no representative from the Hamlet Baptist Church at the Associational meeting in 1879. However, the church was given an assessment of $1 toward the education of W. B. Morton at Wake Forest Institute. J. G. McKeithan was listed as clerk this year. No reports were made to the association in 1880 and 1881 from the Hamlet Church.

An interesting note was found in the minutes of the 1881 Associational Meeting held at Brown Creek. A resolution was made and adopted that Female Missionary Societies be formed under control and direction of the churches of the association.

Hamlet had a pastor, Rev. John M. Bennett, when the association met October 12, 1882, at Ebenezer Church, Stanley County. The following messengers were present—J. G. McKeithan, J. J. Johnson, and Z. H. Gibson. The minutes reported white males 10, white females 14, total 24, 1 death and 1 dismissed by letter. The Hamlet Church was assessed $2 for ministerial aid for the year 1883.

Although the Hamlet Church had no messengers at associational meetings and no reports from 1882-1890, progress was being made in the association. By the year 1884 the Pee Dee Association had raised a $100,000 endowment for Wake Forest College.

Although absent from the associational meeting, the Hamlet Baptist Church was given apportionments in 1885. For the year 1886 the church was assessed $1 to State Missions, $2 to Foreign Missions and $1 for education.

No reports were made in 1889 and 1890.

In 1890 the Richmond Association was formed with the Hamlet Church as a member. The Association met with Pleasant Grove Church October 8, 9, 10, 1891. This year Rev. Joseph Hampton Austin was the pastor. His salary was $25—the first time a salary was mentioned. The report this year of 14 on roll and 3 new members showed a loss in total membership. There was no Sunday School report. Apportionments for 1892—$1 Foreign Missions, $2 Home Missions, $.50 orphanage and $.50 education." No representatives were named from the Hamlet Church.

An item of interest at this 1891 meeting was a report from Mills Home (Orphanage) at Thomasville. This Home had cared for 257 children since its organization and at the time of reporting was caring for 120 children.

The Richmond Association met with the Laurinburg Church in 1892. The Hamlet Church had no messengers present but was given the same assessment as it was given for 1891. This was the last time the Hamlet Church was included in the Richmond Association. From 1892 to the present the church has been in the Pee Dee Association.

There are no reports from the Hamlet Church in 1892 and 1893.

When the Association met with the Wadesboro Church October 24-27, 1894, our pastor was Rev. Thomas Sharpe Wright. He and Cheslie Taylor were messengers. A preaching service was held once a month on the second Sunday. For the first time a Sunday School report for the Hamlet Church was made. Mr. D. F. Harrill was Superintendent of the Sunday School with 7 officers and teacher and 30 scholars. At this meeting Mr. Taylor was a member of the committee to select the time, place, and preacher for the next Associational meeting. No salary was reported for Rev. Wright.

In 1894 the Hamlet Church was asked to give $10 for denominational causes. The records show that this was paid.

The Association met with the Spring Hill Church in 1895. Rev. Wright preached the Associational sermon. He and Edward Deberry were messengers from the Hamlet Church. This year Rev. Wright was paid a salary of $50.

The report in 1895 showed 11 church members (4 males, 7 females). Three had been added by baptism. D. F. Harrill was Sunday School Superintendent with two teachers and officers and 30 scholars.

Apportionments for the Hamlet Church for 1896 were: State Missions $5, Foreign Missions $2, Home Missions $1, Orphanage $2, Wake Forest College $1, Seminary $1 and Aged Ministers $1. The minutes of the 1896 Associational Meeting held in Lilesville show no full report from the Hamlet Church. However, sketchy reports show

Rev. William J. Fulford was pastor and D. F. Harrill was Sunday School Superintendent. Rev. Fulford lived in Rockingham. He had held pastorates in Warren, Nash, Franklin, Greene, Iredell and Robeson Counties in North Carolina. He came to Rockingham from Blenheim, South Carolina.

Rev. Thomas Sharpe Wright was again called as pastor in 1897. The membership had dropped to 7. Rev. Wright was paid $28.53 this year. $37.01 was spent on repairs. The church had an apportionment of $6 to Denominational causes. There is no record as to whether or not it was paid. The Pee Dee Association met with the Rockingham Church in 1897. Rev. Wright represented the Hamlet Church. He was also Sheriff of Richmond County and lived in Rockingham. D. F. Harrill continued to serve as Sunday School Superintendent.

There are no records available for the years of 1898 and 1899. If Rev. Wright was still serving as pastor of the Hamlet church, he was perhaps too busy enforcing the laws of the county to attend the associational meeting or see that a report was sent.

## CHAPTER V

## FIRST DECADE OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

At the turn of the century, the Hamlet Baptist Church was very weak. No reports were given at Associational meetings at Rockingham in 1900 or at Polkton in 1901.

In 1902 things began to look brighter. The pastor was Rev. Charles Henry Martin of Polkton, North Carolina, a very learned man and dedicated to the task of preaching the word of God. The association met with the Pleasant Grove Church October 23-26, 1902, with J. A. Williams and W. A. Caudle the messengers. Although there had been no reports for four years, the spiritual fires had not died as the Sunday School enrollment had grown to 70 with 5 officers and teachers. J. A. Williams was the superintendent. This year the pastor received $37.50. The church membership number 18.

Progress was noted in 1903. There were preaching services on the first and third Sundays. The pastor was Rev. Leroy Norcross Chappell, a former missionary to China. He lived in Lilesville during his first year as pastor but later moved to Hamlet. He remained pastor until sometime in 1906. Travel was difficult and the Association met quite a distance from Hamlet in 1903 but the church had three messengers at the Brown Creek Church in Anson County. The messengers were W. A. Caudle, J. C. Caudle and L. B. Williams. The Hamlet Church report was the best since its organization. The church membership was 24 (18 females and 6 males). The Sunday School enrollment had reached 75. The pastor's salary was $200. The total gifts of the church were $292.60.

Rev. Chappell took an active part in the program and the proceedings at the Associational Meeting. He gave the report on Christian Education and was selected to preach the Associational sermon the next year.

In 1904 the Pee Dee Association met at the Spring Hill Church. Rev. Chappell preached the Associational sermon. No one, except the pastor, was present from the Hamlet Church. No reports were given other than the financial report of $302. 63. The pastor gave the report on Foreign Missions. He was asked to preach the missionary sermon at the next meeting of the association. He was also appointed a delegate to the Southern Baptist Convention. His salary was $200.

The leadership of the missionary minded Rev. Chappell was really bearing fruit by the year 1905. The church had on roll 40 members (12 males, 28 females). J. A. Williams was Sunday School Superintendent and B. F. Coleman was clerk. This is the year the second church building was constructed. Records show $702.50 was spent for building

purposes. $1,000.68 was contributed for all causes. The new church building, built on the site of the first church, was modern for the times. It had an auditorium with a seating capacity of 200, two Sunday School rooms and a choir loft for twelve. It was painted white. A very good picture is included in the book. The congregation met in Pansey Fetner school house while the building was under construction.

Hamlet Baptist Church Before 1917
Second Building

Rev. Chappell preached at the Hamlet church on the first and third Sundays. He also preached at Brown Creek.

The Associational meeting was held at the Red Hill Church (Anson County) in 1905 with J. A. Williams, R. E. Hinson, and W. A. Caudle as messengers from the Hamlet Church. At this meeting of the association, the Executive Committee of Associational Missions recommended that the State Board of Missions appropriate $200 to the Hamlet Baptist Church.

Rev. Chappell remained with the church until sometime in 1906. His salary was raised to $350 a year. Even though he lived in Hamlet, there was never any mention of a parsonage. This year (1906) mission gifts amounted to $71.89. The explanation may be found in the fact that a Woman's Missionary Union had been organized with Mrs. A. Taylor as president and a Young People's Society with Miss Pearl Carter in charge.

The year of 1906 was the first time women from the Hamlet Church had attended a W.M.U. Associational Meeting. The following were delegates: Mesdames Taylor, Williams and Hinson. Messengers to the Pee Dee Association elected by the church were J. A. Williams, R. E. Hinson and W. H. H. Bagwell.

The church now had 49 members and total gifts were $468.17.

The year 1907 is outstanding because this year there were services each Sunday. The church had a new pastor, Rev. Edward Rowland Harris, who had taken charge sometime in 1906. The church membership was 70 (22 males, 48 females). The pastor's salary was $450. The building fund was $1,054.54. Total gifts for all purposes amounted to $1,763.39—the largest recorded to this time.

Mrs. A. E. Phaff, Mrs. John Shortridge's mother, nee' Atha Liles, was married to Charles F. Lusk on May 22, 1907, in the Hamlet Baptist Church. Rev. Harris performed the ceremony. Mrs. Owen Bundy decorated the church.

The Pee Dee Association met with the Wadesboro Church in 1907. Minutes showed W. L. Criddlebaugh as clerk, C. Gresham as Sunday School Superintendent with 12 officers and teachers and 100 scholars. The messengers were W. H. H. Bagwell, J. A. Williams and H. E. Maske. The W. M. U. Associational Meeting in 1907 had Mesdames R. E. Hinson, J. A. Williams, E. R. Harris, and Miss Blake Maske as representatives. Mission gifts of $39.18 were reported.

Again the church had a new pastor in 1908. Rev. Adolphus McKinney Burleson. His salary was $575.00 a year.

The Laurinburg Church was host to the Pee Dee Association in 1908. The following facts were given in the church report: Messengers were H. E. Maske, (Mrs. E. P. Pearce's father), R. A. Lackey and W. H. H. Bagwell. T. R. Helms was Sunday School Superintendent with 87 scholars, 9 officers and teachers. W. L. Criddlebaugh, clerk; Mrs. A. M. Burleson, President of W.M.S. Mission gifts, $40. For the first time a Sunbeam Band was reported with Miss Cora Atkinson, Mrs. Hinson and Miss Medlin as leaders and with mission gifts of $7.80.

Rev. Burleson preached the Associational sermon and gave the report on Aged Ministers. The building fund was $294.74. Total gifts

were $1,117.19. Each year churches were apportioned amounts for all denominational causes. This year the Hamlet Church was assessed $100. This far exceeded the $4 given in 1878.

. The church made splendid progress in all endeavors under Rev. Joseph Bryan Jackson during 1909. The Pee Dee Association met with the Peachland Church in 1909. The minutes revealed the following information: W. L. Criddlebaugh, Sunday School Superintendent (8 officers and teachers, 125 scholars); Church Clerk, W. H. H. Bagwell; Church enrollment 124 (45 males, 79 females); President of W.M.S., Mrs. J. R. Boykin; pastor's salary, $486.27; Building Fund, $890.71; total gifts, $1,730.61. Messengers—T. G. Wood, Jr., and J. H. Austin. Delegates to the W.M.U. Annual Meeting were Mesdames J. R. Boykin, R. E. Hinson, and W. H. H. Bagwell. Rev. Jackson gave the report on Christian Education. He was elected a delegate to the Southern Baptist Convention.

Thus ends the first 10 years of the twentieth century. No doubt one is weary of the repetition of Associational reports, but there was no other way to show progress from year to year. Since there are no old church rolls of members, the names of the messengers and delegates have been included. At least names of a few of the faithful are preserved.

## CHAPTER VI

### STEADY GROWTH 1910-1921

The year 1910 should be remembered as the first time the Pee Dee Association met in the Hamlet Church. The minutes reported these facts: "Rev. J. B. Jackson, pastor; W. L. Criddlebaugh, Sunday School Superintendent (10 officers and teachers, 115 scholars); church membership 160 (59 males, 101 females); messengers — H. E. Maske, W. H. H. Bagwell, and L. L. Pegram; delegates to the W.M.U. Annual Meeting were Mesdames J. B. Jackson, F. D. Whitehead, Charles F. Lusk, A. Taylor, and W. H. H. Bagwell; pastor's salary $840; total gifts $2,020.51."

The year 1911 was Rev. Jackson's third year with the Hamlet Church. The Morven Church was host to the Pee Dee Association this year. The facts and figures about the Hamlet Church were the best to date. Rev. Jackson preached the Introductory Sermon and made the report on the orphanage. Pastor's salary was $900, Building Fund $700, total gifts $2,349.85, Messengers: Rev. J. B. Jackson, J. H. Austin, E. F. Chisholm and Roy Maske. Representatives to the W.M.U. Annual Meeting were Mesdames R. E. Hinson and J. A. Williams. Sunday School Superintendent was E. F. Chisholm (10 officers and teachers and 150 scholars); Clerk, W. H. H. Bagwell; President of W.M.S., Mrs. J. B. Jackson; Sunbeam Leader, Miss Cora Atkinson; Associational Apportionment, $226.

From June 1, 1912 to August 16, 1916, Rev. Albert Thomas Howell, Sr., was the shepherd of the flock at the Hamlet Baptist Church. This kindly, gentle and patient man guided the membership in a most competent manner. A digest of facts from associational minutes for four years follows:

W. H. H. Bagwell—Clerk

E. F. Chisholm—Sunday School Superintendent, 1912

J. A. Williams—Sunday School Superintendent, 1913

W. L. Criddleburg—Sunday School Superintendent, 1914

E. P. Pearce—Sunday School Superintendent, 1915, and continued in this office for 27 years.

Sunday school enrollment increased from 90 scholars in 1912 to 266 in 1916.

Church Membership—150 in 1912; 320 in 1916.

Pastor's Salary—$840 in 1912; $1,080 in 1916.

The Pee Dee Association held its meeting in 1912 with the Hoffman Church. Messengers were W. H. H. Bagwell, J. A. Williams and H. E. Maske. Delegate to the W.M.U. Annual Meeting was Mrs. J. A.

Williams. Total gifts were $1,626.71. Rev. Howell was elected a delegate to the Southern Baptist Convention and was also appointed historian for the Pee Dee Association.

In 1913 the Lilesville Church was host to the association. Messengers from the Hamlet Church were Rev. A. T. Howell, J. A. Williams and C. H. Teague. W.M.U. representatives to their annual meeting were Mesdames R. E. Hinson, H. T. Reynolds, A. T. Howell, Bessie Speight and Mary Reynolds. Church property was valued at $6,000. Gifts for use at home were $2,149, .convention gifts $385, Associational apportionment for denominational causes $251.

In 1914 the Associational Meeting was held with the Rockingham Church with delegates J. L. Moore, R. E. Hinson, E. P. Pearce and J. R. Boykin from Hamlet. The W.M.U. delegates to the Annual Meeting were Mrs. R. E. Hinson and Mrs. A. T. Howell. The financial report contained the following information: Building Fund and repairs $550, Convention objects $683.41, W.M.S. $100, Sunbeam Band $34.20, Pastor's salary $1,080. Total funds for local use were $2,234.17. Rev. Howell was a member of the Association Executive Committee.

The Pee Dee Association met with the Ellerbe Church in 1915. The delegates from the Hamlet Church were L. A. Patrick, E. A. Harrill, T. E. Dabbs and E. P. Pearce. W.M.U. delegates to the W.M.U. Annual meting were Mrs. A. T. Howell, Mrs. R. E. Hinson and Mrs. Charles Lusk. Total gifts this year—W.M.S. $100, Sunbeams $25, Sunday School $304.56, convention objects $497.56, for home use $1,-950. Forty-one baptisms were reported this year—the largest number of any year up to this time. Rev. Howell gave the report on the "Biblical Recorder." He was elected a representative of the Home Mission Board. Church property was reported at $7,000.

The Wadesboro Church hosted the Pee Dee Association in 1916. The Hamlet Church had the following messenger—W. H. Lindsey. W.M.S. delegates to the annual meeting were Mesdames W. L. Robinson, R. E. Hinson, A. T. Howell, G. S. Pratt, Charles Lusk, B. R. Carroll, M. Windham, G. P. Glenn, Misses Cora Atkinson and Annie Howell. Gifts for all purposes exceeded anything given previously—$5,566.19.

About this time many of the young men of the town and church were engaged in helping to fight World War I. The women of the churches in Hamlet were busy in the Red Cross Serving Room and the Red Cross Canteen. The Canteen was built from an old Seaboard Railroad box car which was placed back of the Seaboard Hotel. Here food and information were given to troops passing through Hamlet.

On November 1, 1916, Rev. Jesse Martin Page came from Troy, North Carolina, to be the pastor of the Hamlet Baptist Church for the

next four years. These years included the time of World War I. The activity of the war days was reflected in the church records. There seemed to be plenty of money at this time because people gave generously to the church. The church treasury showed an increase surpassing all prior records.

Rev. Page was known as a builder of churches, having just completed a large and beautiful house of worship at Troy. At Hamlet he immediately saw the need of a new sanctuary. The membership numbered 320, and the auditorium of the sanctuary would seat only 200. Prior to this $200 had been set aside for a new sanctuary.

For some reason the membership and the former pastor had felt a new site was needed for the new sanctuary. Records in the Court House, Rockingham, N. C., show that O. T. Goodwin and wife Clara M., T. M. Rose and wife Mary B. sold to the trustees of Hamlet Baptist Church, R. E. Hinson, W. H. H. Bagwell, J. A. Williams, E. A. Harrill, and W. L. Criddlebaugh, for $3,200 the plot of land where the present sanctuary stands. Indenture was entered June 5, 1916, probated June 16, 1916, and recorded April 3, 1917. The site already having been purchased before Rev. Page's arrival in Hamlet November 1, 1916, he very soon began making plans to build the building in which we worship each Sunday.

At the Spring Hill Church at Wagram in 1917, Mr. E. P. Pearce and Rev. J. M. Page were messengers from the Hamlet Baptist Church. W.M.U. delegates to the W.M.U. Annual Meeting in 1917 were Mesdames M. Windham, J. M. Page, C. C. Hawley, B. R. Carroll, O. W. Cottle, G. L. Pratt, Misses Cora Atkinson, Leta and Jessie M. Page. The minutes revealed the following facts: Mr. E. P. Pearce, Sunday School Superintendent; Mr. W. R. Simpson, Sunday School Secretary; Sunday School enrollment 183 including 15 officers and teachers; Mr. W. H. H. Bagwell, church clerk; Mrs. Minnie Windham, W.M.S. President; Miss Pauline Yost, Sunbeam Leader; Building Fund $5,000; pastor's salary $1,330; total gifts $7,191.58. Rev. Page was a member of the Pee Dee Baptist Association Executive Committee. Mr. C. H. Teague was elected a delegate to the State Convention. Financial figures showed the Hamlet Church had given $3,000 more than any other church in the association. Church property was valued at $12,500. Membership numbered 343 (157 males and 186 females).

It was not surprising that the Hamlet Church was making much progress. Many of the people were tithing. It was reported that one man in the church made $20 per week and gave $10 per week to the church. His name was not given.

In 1918 the Pee Dee Association met with the Gibson Church. A brief report contained these facts—Delegates E. P. Pearce, C. F.

Wright, T. A. Morris; J. M. Page, pastor; salary $1,600; membership 330; total gifts $8,038.48. The Hamlet Church led the association in gifts. Value of church property was $20,000.

The sanctuary was under construction from early 1917 to 1919. More details are in the biography of Rev. J. M. Page. On July 14, 1918, the first service was held in the new church. The Sunday School rooms were completed and work had begun on the interior of the auditorium. The new sanctuary was dedicated September 5, 1919 as the First Baptist Church of Hamlet.

In 1919 for the second time in the church history, the Pee Dee Association met with the First Baptist Church of Hamlet. The pastor and the membership were pleased to have people from all over the association visit the nearly completed church building and new parsonage. The messengers this year were R. E. Hinson, C. F. Wright and H. E. Maske. Rev. Page gave the report on Foreign Missions. Mr. Bagwell continued as church clerk and Mr. Pearce as Sunday School Superintendent. Gifts for all causes exceeded $10,000.

Cartledge Creek Church hosted the Pee Dee Association in 1920. Rev. Page gave the Temperance report. People rejoiced that prohibition had been enacted. Messengers were J. M. Ford, J. E. Austin and H. E. Maske. Mr. E. P. Pearce was elected a delegate to the State Convention. Mr. Pearce was still Superintendent of the Sunday School with an enrollment of 250 including 27 officers and teachers. Church membership was 417 (185 males, 232 females); church property $50,000; Pastor's salary $2,252; building fund $3,500; home use $6,-980.64; Seventy-five Million Campaign $4,344; conventional objects $4,787.96.

Rev. Page's last year with us was 1921. His salary was now $2,400. The report given in 1921 at the associational meeting in Wadesboro was one to be proud of. The church membership wa 508. The church had had 38 baptisms in the past year, and many had come by letter. Under Mr. Pearce's supervision there were 400 enrolled in Sunday School, including 33 officers and teachers. Mrs. R. B. Freeman was W.M.S. president. Delegates to the Association Meeting were R. H. Halyburton, Walter Spencer and E. P. Pearce. This year the gifts were as follows: Home purpose $7,614.35; Orphanage $1,126.95; convention objects $4,325.91; Seventy-five Million Campaign $3,198.96.

Rev. Page left Hamlet in December, 1921, to go to the First Baptist Church of St. Pauls, North Carolina.

According to Mr. C. B. Deane's notes gathered from "Association Minutes," Rev. J. H. Austin (our third pastor) was listed as pastor in 1921. It is assumed he was interim pastor in December, 1921 and January, 1922 before Dr. Willis's coming in February, 1922.

## CHAPTER VII

## THE FIRST TWENTY YEARS OF THE WILLIS ERA

A new era definitely began when Rev. James Bennett Willis came as pastor on February 1, 1922, with his lovely wife and small daughter, Miriam. This family soon endeared themselves to the congregation, and as time passed wielded a great influence over the church and the community.

There was a unique custom among church folk that when a new pastor moved to town, his congregation would "pound" him and his family. What poundings these were! The Willises were provided with foods of all kinds for many days. The church members always made these poundings happy occasions as they were given an opportunity to view the pastor's home and satisfy the curiosity of some about the pastor and his family. These poundings continued once a year for many years.

Immediately Rev. Willis became engrossed in his work as pastor aided by Mrs. Willis who was organist and a valuable worker with the youth of the church.

At Saron Church where the Pee Dee Association met in 1922, the report on the "Biblical Recorder" was given by Rev. Willis. The first year of his pastorate 82 baptisms were reported. The membership had increased by 126 making a total of 634 members. Gifts had increased $1,000 over the previous year. The Sunday School was making great strides under the guidance of Mr. E. P. Pearce.

The First Baptist Church welcomed the Pee Dee Association in 1926. Members were delighted to have visitors view the spacious church building and hear the beautiful pipe organ. It was at this meeting that Mr. C. B. Deane was elected clerk of the association, a position he served efficiently until October 21, 1952.

Mrs. Willis was a very talented musician and served as organist until 1947 and choir director until 1944. Miriam was elected assistant organist on October 13, 1946. Upon the death of her mother, she became organist.

Many interesting records were achieved during Dr. Willis's first twenty years as pastor. One in particular should be noted. Mr. E. P. Pearce had served as Sunday School Superintendent for twenty-five years (1914-1939). The Sunday School enrollment given in Associational minutes in 1915 showed 12 officers and teachers with 212 scholars. In 1939 the report showed an enrollment of 604 with an average attendance of 355.

In appreciation of Mr. Pearce's loyal and faithful services as Superintendent of the Sunday School for 25 years, he was honored with a dinner at the church with his family, pastor, Sunday School officers and teachers, church officers, associational officers and several close friends attending. Special guests were Dr. Bruce Benton and Mr. C. B. Deane of Rockingham. At this time Mr. Pearce was presented a chest of sterling silver, a service of six.

Mr. E. P. Pearce, Superintendent of the Sunday School from 1914-1943.

Mrs. J. H. Hawkins (Berta), Assistant to the Pastor and Secretary.

The membership of the church had increased to the extent that a financial secretary was needed. Mrs. J. H. Hawkins was given this position sometime about 1935. Soon afterwards (about 1936), she was elected Pastor's Assistant. She held these positions until retirement October 31, 1945. She was retired on a pension of $40 per month until early in 1962 at which time her pension was raised $10 per month through the anonymous gift of a friend. No one was more loyal to her pastor and her church. She served long and faithfully as Superintendent of the Junior Department of the Sunday School. She held various positions in the church and associational W.M.U. Until she became disabled, she was about the Lord's work—visiting the sick, the new residents, and the homes in which sorrow had come. Her last days were filled with physical suffering. She departed this life on September 10, 1962, and is buried beside her husband in Mary Love Cemetery.

The following facts and dates were found in the "First Baptist Church History" dated 1955:

1. The following deacons had been on the Board of Deacons since 1935: Messrs. E. P. Pearce, B. R. Carroll, and R. M. Galloway, Sr.
2. The W.M.U. President, Mrs. C. B. Honeycutt; the secretary, Mrs. B. B. Jeffreys; and the treasurer, Mrs. T. O. McEwen had served for 24 years. The W.M.U. had maintained a steady growth in numbers and amount of gifts to missions.
3. The Beginner's Department had had a most efficient superintendent, Mrs. W. C. Boney, Sr., for more than 20 years.
4. The choir had 25 members. Those that were members 20 years before were Mrs. R. M. Galloway, Sr., Mrs. T. P. Wells and Mrs. J. B. Willis.
5. Perhaps Mr. W. H. H. Bagwell had been a member of First Baptist Church longer than any other person. In 1942 it was recorded he had been a member for 43 years. Mr. R. E. Hinson and Mr. R. S. Gaddy were the next in length of years. Perhaps the wives of Mr. Bagwell, Mr. Hinson and Mr. Gaddy with Miss Mary Jenkins were the women with the greatest number of years of service.

The 1928 Associational Minutes carried the names of the deceased members of each church for the first time and this practice has been continued through the years. The only one named from the First Baptist Church during the year 1928 was Mr. H. E. Maske (the father of Mrs. E. P. Pearce and Mrs. R. M. Galloway). He had taken a very active part in the church and the association. His name appeared often as a messenger at associational meetings since 1907. One of the lovely stained glass windows in the sanctuary was placed there in his memory by the church. In 1928 for the first time the indebtedness of churches was carried in the Pee Dee Associational Minutes. The First Baptist Church had no indebtedness on its property then and none was shown in the minutes through 1958. The following statement was taken from Mr. C. B. Deane's notes for the year 1928, "you did not have any and have not had any (indebtedness) during all these years, since, that is on church property. I feel that is one of the reasons of your great success. The other three larger churches in the Association have almost been sold for debt. I know that is true of our group in Rockingham."

The Associational minutes of 1930 carried the names of Mrs. J. B. Willis and Mrs. C. H. Teague as the first women messengers elected by the church to an Associational Meeting. The record this year showed the smallest amount of gifts in the past 11 years. Many can recall this as one of the years of the depression.

The first twenty years of Rev. Willis's pastorate were really challenging. From time to time there were bills on the furnace, maintenance, repairs on roof, organ, etc. Even the pastor's salary went unpaid at times for the lack of funds. There was always a capable Board of Deacons made up of competent businessmen. Many times they themselves donated the amounts needed. Other times the membership was notified of the situation and responded in an adequate manner. Sometimes the Board of Deacons deemed it wiser to make a loan at the bank for a period of not more than 90 days.

In the year 1939 the Baptist World Congress held its sixth meeting in Atlanta, Georgia. Those attending from our church were Rev. Willis, Mr. and Mrs. B. R. Carroll and Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Pearce.

A special bulletin was issued on the occasion of Rev. Willis's twentieth anniversary from which the following was copied:

"A statistical summary of the years 1922-1942 shows the following grand totals: baptisms, 614; received by letter, 538; restored, 40; dismissed by letter, 509; retired to inactive list, 263; present membership on active list, 823. Financial figures show the following 20 year totals; pastor's salary $64,200; mission and beneficiences $62,584.64; other home objects $78,512.15; total gifts $205,296.82." For this period the church led the Pee Dee Association in pastor's salary and gifts to beneficient and denominational causes.

"The church membership more than doubled during this period, and from the First Baptist Church was organized the East Hamlet Baptist Church (now the Second Baptist Church) with a membership of 150. The First Baptist Sunday School enrollment had more than doubled, and the East Hamlet Church had an enrollment of 175. This church then under the pastoral leadership of Rev. B. H. Conder was reported as doing a splendid work."

This period of history would not be complete without the mention of Miss Mary Jenkins. "Miss Mary," out of a small income, had given much through the years that when she could no longer work, the deacons decided to giver her $15 per month. It is assumed the recommendation was presented to and passed by the church as old budgets of 1941 carried an expenditure of $15 to "Miss Mary." She died February 15, 1945, in the Hamlet Hospital. She is numbered with the saints of the church.

The membership honored Rev. Willis with a reception and gift on his twentieth anniversary.

## CHAPTER VIII

### WILLIS ERA FROM 1942-1947

The three years from 1942-1945 belong to the World War II period. Almost overnight every available house, apartment and spare room were filled with families of soldiers encamped at Camp Mackall. On Sunday the churches around about were filled to overflowing. The membership of the First Baptist Church of Hamlet tried in many ways to be helpful and showed their concern and Christian love by inviting the soldiers for Sunday dinner or as week-end guests. Many of the young men of the church membership answered the call to arms. There is a plaque in the church auditorium upon which is inscribed the names of those who served their country including names of those who made the supreme sacrifice.

By the year 1945 there were 854 church members. It was October of this year that church envelopes were first provided for the membership. It was a good year financially. Gifts amounted to $21,-771.76. It seems that there was more than a sufficient amount to meet the immediate needs of the church. In May, 1945, the sum of $1,924 was invested in Savings Bonds—maturity value $2,600. On June 20, 1945, at a Deacon's Meeting, it was voted to buy three $100 bonds for Wake Forest College and three $100 bonds for Meredith College. These were sent to the respective presidents of the colleges. On October 21, 1945 the deacons voted to buy one $1,000 bond, and on November 3, 1945 they voted to buy two $1,000 bonds as an investment.

On November 21, 1945 the deacons voted that $1,800 be authorized in the budget for an assistant to the pastor to replace Mrs. Hawkins who had retired October 31, 1945.

In this period of church history, it was customary for the chairman of the Board of Deacons to appoint a committee to make up a budget with the help of the pastor, the treasurer and the Finance Committee. Appointed on the committee were E. B. Gunter, J. J. Gray and L. W. Spencer. A budget of $17,300 was recommended to and adopted by the church. The year ran from November 1, 1945 through October 31, 1946.

At a Deacon's Meeting on January 13, 1946 it was voted to send each church member a statement of his church gifts each quarter. This practice is still in effect.

Early in 1946 Elwood Coggin was asked to work with the young people at a salary of $60 per month, with an assistant at $15 per month.

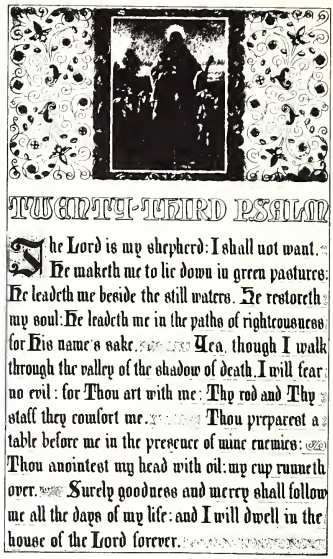
The church treasurer, Mr. C. E. Coggin, reported on April 7, 1946 at the Deacon's Meeting that $4,664 was held in government bonds and $1,988.35 in cash in the bank. Also a matter of business at this meeting

## Morning Worship — 11:00 O'clock

Prelude: Fugue on "O God Our Help in Ages Past" ..... Diggle
Introit: "Cast Thy Burden Upon the Lord" ..... Mendelssohn
Invocation
Doxology
Hymn No. 2: "O Worship the King" ..... Haydn
Scripture
Prayer
Response: "Hear Our Prayer, O Lord" ..... Whelpton
Hymn No. 37: "There Is a Fountain" ..... Mason
Announcements
Offertory Prayer
Offertory: "Sweet Remembrance" ..... Mendelssohn
Anthem: "Lord God of Sabaoth" ..... Mozart
The Choir
Sermon ..... Dr. Bruce Benton
Hymn No. 181: "Amazing Grace" ..... Arr. by E. O. Excell
Benediction
Choral Benediction: "Threefold Amen" ..... Traditional
Postlude: "Anniversary March" ..... Erb

## Evening Worship — 7:30 O'clock

Prelude: "To God All Praise and Glory" ..... Lorenz
Hymn No. 419: "Forward Through the Ages" ..... Sullivan
Scripture
Prayer
Hymn No. 264: "Prayer Is the Soul's Sincere Desire" ..... Everett
Announcements
Offertory Prayer
Offertory: "Voix Seraphique" ..... Williams
Special Music ..... Men's Choir
Short Talks by: Rev. W. I. Howel, Mr. J. P. Gibbons, Sr., Mr. H. M. Kyzer, Rev. Edwin Perry
Hymn No. 196: "I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord" ..... Williams
Benediction
Choral Benediction: "Benediction" ..... McKinney




# Pastor's Twenty-Fifth Anniversary

Sunday, January 26, 1947

## First Baptist Church

HAMLET, NORTH CAROLINA

### STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Pastorate of J. B. Willis

1922 — 1947

GRAND TOTALS. Baptized 700. Received by letter and restoration 800. Present membership 868 with an inactive list of 265, making a total of 1,133.

During these 25 years the church has raised for all objects $337,000.00 with $98,000.00 of this amount going to missions, benevolence, and outside causes. When we remember that this includes several years of financial depression, we feel that this is not a bad record.

Our membership has far more than doubled and from the First Baptist Church has been organized the East Hamlet Baptist Church with a membership of between 150 and 200. All of the departmens of the church and Sunday School are functioning in a splendid way. The East Hamlet Baptist church under the pastoral leadership of Rev. H. M. McGinnis is doing a splendid work.

The pastor has kept no definite record of funerals conducted, marriages, pastoral calls, etc., but the funerals run well into the hundreds and the pastoral calls into many thousands.

### SOME INTERESTING OBSERVATIONS

The Hamlet Baptist Church was admitted to the Pee Dee Baptist Association in 1878 with Rev. T. B. Newberry as pastor. The membership totaled 27 and that year the total gifts to all objects was $4.00. For several years the church would often fail to make an annual report to the Association and it is interesting to note that 25 years after its organization the membership was smaller than when it was received into the Association. At one time, in 1895, the membership was only 11. During the life of our church, she has had 14 pastors and the present pastorate extends well over a third of the church's existence.

W. M. S. For more than a quarter of a century Mrs. C. B. Honeycutt served as President of the W. M. S. and no woman ever more completely had the confidence of our people and was more faithful to the W. M. S. than Mrs. Honeycutt. Because of failing health she gave up the work several years ago and Mrs. W. C. Boney is now President and the work being done by this organization has never been better than now. Mesdames B. B. Jeffreys and T. O. McEwen have given long and tireless service as Secretary and Treasurer respectively. Under the leadership of these fine women and their associates, the gifts to missions have steadily increased.

CHURCH OFFICERS. Mr. W. H. H. Bagwell has served as Church Clerk for more than 30 years and was also Sunday School Treasurer until the beginning of our Unified Budget system. He has perhaps been a member of the church longer than any other individual, having come into its fellowship 48 years ago. A close second in length of years would be Mesdames R. E. Hinson and R. S. Gaddy. Messrs. B. R. Carroll and R. M. Galloway are the only members of the present Board of Deacons who were on the Board 25 years ago. Mrs. J. H. Hawkins has been an officer in the Sunday School and doing active church service for all of these years. These are only a few of the faithful group who have helped to make the success of our church possible and we are mentioning their names only because they have been with us in official capacity through these 25 years.

PASTOR'S WORD. Surely these have been happy years for the pastor and he and family want to register their appreciation for every kindness shown them across the years. We were warmly received in the beginning and apparently the spirit of our church has never been finer. And so may we with love for one another and an abiding faith in God and devotion to His cause, go forward.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Wednesday evening at 7:30 the church is having in the recreation room a reception for the pastor and family. All members of the church and friends of the town and community are invited to come any time between 7:30 and 10:00 o'clock.

Next Sunday at the morning worship hour we are expecting Dr. C. H. Durham of Lumberton as our guest speaker. It is always a great delight to have Dr. Durham withus. He is one of the most capable, respected, and honored of all of our Southern Baptist preachers.

The altar flowers today are given by Miriam Willis in honor of her parents, the Reverend and Mrs. Willis.

was whether or not to accept the endowment to Wake Forest College by the Reynolds Foundation. After a discussion all present voted to accept the offer.

An extraordinary session of the Baptist State Convention was held in Greensboro, North Carolina, in July 30, 1946 for the purpose of accepting or rejecting the Smith-Reynolds Foundation offer of endowment for Wake Forest College. Delegates appointed were E. B. Gunter, Dr. B. W. Williamson, B. R. Carroll, Mrs. B. R. Carroll, R. M. Galloway, Mrs. R. M. Galloway, Mrs. T. E. Freeman, C. H. Teague, Melvin Gibson, and Mrs. Melvin Gibson. Each was free to vote as he deemed wise. The convention accepted the offer and Wake Forest college was moved to Winston-Salem.

The year 1946 was a prosperous one for the church. Rev. Willis's salary was raised to $4,000 a year—an increase of $400; $1,000 was given to World Relief. Baptist Colleges, the orphanages and hospital were all recipients of gifts during the year.

A special bulletin issued on the occasion of Rev. Willis's twenty-fifth anniversary was recently found by Mrs. George Hendricks. The contents of this bulletin will probably be of interest to all. (See duplicate of bulletin.)

## CHAPTER IX

### THE WILLIS ERA FROM 1947-1959

The span of 37 years with Dr. Willis as pastor covered many interesting happenings, changed many lives for Christ and touched a multitude of people in joy, sickness, sorrow and trouble. It would take a book just to cover this one area of church history.

These last twelve years were most rewarding as progress was made from year to year.

Early in 1947 the Board of Deacons instructed Rev. Willis to try to secure a full-time church worker. For the summer months of that year, Miss Peggy Greene of Florence, S. C., worked as Minister of Music. Soon after leaving Hamlet she married Rev. W. Bryant Hicks. Both enrolled at Southern Baptist Seminary and upon graduation served as foreign missionaires.

On September 1, 1947 Miss Helen Jones of Asheville, North Carolina, came to the church as Educational Director and Financial

Secretary. She was so eager to serve that she found places of service in many departments of the church. She remained with the church until April 1, 1951, when she was married to Dr. Ralph Gandy of Rockingham.

The membership and community were saddened at the passing of Mrs. J. B. Willis on August 27, 1947. She possessed a lovely personality and a great talent for music. Friends and loved ones tried to comfort Rev. Willis and Miriam as Rev. Willis had comforted hundreds in the past years.

Mr. W. H. H. Bagwell resigned after 38 years as church clerk on November 17, 1947 at a Deacon's Meeting. Mr. T. G. Bagwell was elected to replace him. Mr. W. H. H. Bagwell was also Sunday School Treasurer until the church went on the unified budget November 1, 1946 for all activites except the W.M.U.

There was a special Deacon's Meeting on July 10, 1949 for the purpose of discussing the parking problem around the church. A committee composed of Rev. Willis, Charles Ashe, R. C. Ross, C. H. Holland and J. F. Gibson was named to look into the possibility of renting or leasing the vacant lot on Charlotte Street to the rear of Builders Supply Warehouse. It was understood that the lot belonged to the S.A.L. Railroad. This parking lot problem was not settled until August, 1951 when a report was made at a Deacon's Meeting that the Trustees would have to sign the lease. Trustees were B. R. Carroll, Harvey Carroll, W. H. H. Bagwell and T. G. Bagwell. The lot was finally ready for use September, 1952.

A committee was appointed at the Deacon's Meeting of September 21, 1949 to draw up a budget for the coming year. The chairman of the Board appointed J. J. Gray, T. G. Bagwell and R. M. Galloway to meet with the pastor, Miss Jones, and several ladies to prepare a budget. At the next meeting of the Board it was disclosed that the Budget Committee had met with Miss Jones and Mrs. W. N. Cosby and a budget had been completed. After discussion and minor changes, it was presented to the church the following Sunday. The church adopted said budget of $24,000 for the year October 1, 1949 through September 30, 1950.

Heretofore when there was a vacancy on the Board of Deacons or it was time to rotate members off, a committee of deacons was appointed to recommend men to serve. Those being rotated off were almost always reelected. This practice continued until a set of regulations, six in number, was recommended by the deacons to the church. The church adopted the regulations October 30, 1949. All regulations were important, but by far the most significant was the third which read as follows:

"Our church membership shall elect an active Board of Deacons from its male members twenty-one years old and over composed of twenty Deacons which shall be elected for a term of four years, except as herein provided. Immediately after the first election they shall be divided into four groups. The first group shall serve for a term of one year, second group for a term of two years, third group for a term of three years, and fourth group for a term of four years, and that there shall be one-fourth elected annually thereafter for a term of four years, and no Deacon shall succeed himself to office. All elections conducted for the election of Deacons shall be done by secret ballot; insofar as practical."

Under the new regulations the following Deacons were elected to serve.

| **One Year** | **Two Years** | **Three Years** | **Four Years** |
|---|---|---|---|
| R. M. Galloway | Charles Ashe, Sr. | E. B. Gunter | P. C. O'Neil |
| J. F. Gibson | C. H. Holland | L. R. Palmer | Joe Smith |
| W. C. Boney | W. A. Shelley | C. E. Coggin | L. W. Spencer |
| Edwin Pearce | E. M. Owen | H. A. Brown | J. J. Gray |
| Tyler Dunn | T. G. Bagwell | B. R. Carroll | S. C. Arnold |
| R. C. Ross | | | |

At the same time Brothers Teague, Benton and Stafford were elected as honorary members of the Board for life.

How many members remember the Wednesday Family Night suppers? On January 2, 1950 Mr. B. R. Carroll, chairman of the Board of Deacons, appointed C. H. Holland, J. F. Gibson, L. R. Palmer, Tyler Dunn, Edwin Pearce, E. M. Owen, H. A. Brown and W. C. Boney to work with a committee of ladies to plan for these suppers which were dutch affairs and no expense to the church. This was the practice for many years. On Wednesday nights members enjoyed this fellowship with others. It was at this time that almost every organization held its weekly or monthly meeting after which all assembled for prayer meeting.

As one knows there are repairs to be made on any building from time to time. During the year of 1950 there seemed to have been an unusual number of things needing attention such as the furnace, the organ, woodwork and windows in the sanctuary, gutters, downspouts, wiring and lights. The sanctuary, parsonage and Sunday School rooms needed a coat of paint. Also there was a need of a garage at the pastorium. Letters stating the need of cash for all repairs were sent to all members, but the response did not bring in a sufficient amount of money; so on May 1, 1950 at a Deacon's Meeting, it was voted to convert into cash the U.S. Bonds which the church held.

In March of 1951 Mr. C. E. Coggin resigned as church treasurer. Miss Frances Paul was appointed temporarily. Mr. Coggin had served loyally and efficiently from the year 1935.

Miss Miriam Willis resigned as choir director on June 1, 1951. Her talents and musical abilities had meant much to both old and young. It was with regrets that her resignation was accepted. She did consent to lead the Junior Choir until December, 1951.

The Southern Baptist Convention held its annual meeting in San Francisco, California, June, 1951. Three hundred dollars was in the budget as conventional expenses for the pastor. Rev. Willis requested permission of the Board of Deacons that Miss Helen Jones be allowed to use half of this or $150. The Board granted permission. Others from the church attending this convention were Mrs. L. O. Pruden, and Mrs. Robert Benbury. From a recent conversation it was learned that Miss Jones did not attend the convention.

In April, 1951 Dr. Powers, a brother of Mrs. W. C. Boney, held a revival assisted by Mr. Ralph Harrell as song leader. Ralph was then a senior at Wake Forest College. The membership was so impressed with this young man that he was asked to become an Associate to Rev. Willis. Upon his graduation from Wake Forest College, he took up his duties on June 10, 1951, assisting Rev. Willis with all activities of the Baptist program. He remained until August, 1953, at which time he entered the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary for further study.

In 1952 Mr. J. J. Gray, chairman of the Board of Deacons expressed a desire that the church start making plans for an educational building. More room was needed for the Sunday School enrollment of 881. In May of 1952 Rev. Willis suggested to the Board that Mr. Harrell of the Sunday School Board be asked to come down and look over the facilities and make recommendations concerning a proposed building program. The Deacons authorized Rev. Willis to contact Mr. Harrell.

Mr. R. C. Ross was elected church Treasurer in 1952. That year the total gifts for all causes were $39,194.07. Mr. Ross served until 1958 in which year all gifts amounted to $72,112.

Mitchell Wallace presented the idea of beginning a church library on August 6, 1951. A committee of Tyler Dunn, Edwin Pearce and Mitchell Wallace was appointed to investigate the project, authorize the work and prepare a room for the library. The project was sponsored by the Young People's Department. Mrs. M. N. Kirkland was named Librarian at the time this committee was appointed.

The First Baptist Church held its first Vacation Bible School on June 5-9, 1950 and has continued each year since that time. Prior to this time a V.B.S. with other Protestant Churches participating had been held.

The Clothing Closet was begun in January, 1952. It has been and continues to be a blessing to an untold number of individuals and families.

The Gray Bible Class originated the idea of air conditioning the church in August, 1951. It took five years for this project to become a reality.

A discussion of a building program took place on July 20, 1952 (presumably at morning worship) and the first planning meeting was held July 27, 1952. The building fund showed $5,191.57 on November 30, 1952. Our educational facilities began to grow. The brick home adjoining the church property was purchased September, 1952 and used for Sunday School and Training Union classes. September, 1954 the Helms house on the corner of Wilmington Street and Hamlet Avenue was purchased.

Wake Forest University conferred the Doctor of Divinity degree upon Rev. Willis, our beloved pastor, on July 12, 1953.

The next Associate Pastor was Rev. Billy G. Rivers from Chesterfield, South Carolina. He had just recently received his B.D. degree from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary when he was called to assist Dr. Willis. He and his family came in August, 1953 and soon endeared themselves to the church membership. Billy's preaching on Sunday nights drew good audiences as he preached the Word of God with sincerity and conviction. He and his young wife, Joyce were an inspiration to the youth of the church. Billy was really and truly devoted to Dr. Willis. The church was able to keep him only two years. He left to become pastor of the Pee Dee Baptist Church in Rockingham, North Carolina. There was a reception honoring him and his family on Sunday night October 16, 1955.

From the August 30, 1953, church bulletin it was noted that the Adult Training Union undertook to help support Mrs. C. F. Clark (Polly), a nurse serving the Foreign Missions Board in Japan. Soon thereafter the church voted $1,000 per year in the budget to go toward Mrs. Clark's support. When the Clarks are on furlough, they usually visit with the church for one Sunday. When they were in the United States in 1964, they visited us on December 27. They had charge of the morning worship service and at the evening service they showed slides of their work in Japan. Following the evening service there was a reception in Fellowship Hall honoring them. The membership looks forward to these visits.

On May 3, 1954 the Deacons authorized Dr. Willis, Rev. Billy Rivers and Rev. Arch McMillan to compile "A History of the First Baptist Church, Hamlet, North Carolina." A brief history of the church including appraisals of Dr. James B. Willis was published in 1955 and a copy given to each family in the church.

A church bulletin in September, 1954 made note of the fact that the auditorium had been extensively remodeled and recarpeted with a lovely green carpet. Light fixtures had been replaced with new ones, the walls had been painted, and a new grand piano had been purchased. Earlier in 1954, 110 had been added to the church membership, 41 of them by baptism. Sunday School enrollment had increased by 175. In many respects September 30, 1954, marked the end of the finest year in the church history to this time.

Mr. Don L. Hill, Jr., accepted the call to the church as Education and Music Director on Januay 15, 1956. He remained until December 31, 1956. A reception was held for him and his family on December 30, 1956.

On Sunday night October 7, 1956 there was an open discussion concerning a new educational building. There is no record of any action taken at this time other than members were asked to contribute to the building fund.

Mr. Donald Neal was the next Education and Music Director serving from February 3, 1957, the beginning of Dr. Willis's thirty-fifth year as pastor, until May 25, 1958. Mr. Neal edited the first church weekly paper. It was a four page mimeographed weekly going to each church family. A stepping stone in church progress was the publishing of "The Voice." It contained a digest of meetings, pastor's column and varied announcements with the order of service for the following Sunday on the back page. Members of the church were asked to submit names for this weekly. To Dr. W. M. Pearce goes the honor of naming it. The first copy of "The Voice" was dated March, 1957.

The first Counting Committee was appointed in May, 1957 by the church treasurer, Mr. R. C. Ross. Members of said committee were to serve for one month. The same practice is in effect today.

On April 1, 1957 the Deacons voted to send the "Biblical Recorder" to each family. Each week this periodical containing news particularly of Baptists in North Carolina was mailed to a member of each famaily until December 2, 1968 when the Deacons voted to discontinue this custom. From then until now any interested individual may pay one dollar and the church will pay two dollars for a yearly subscription.

For sometime the Deacons and other church members had realized the necessity of a new pastorium. On June 1, 1957 Mrs. B. R. Carroll (Johnnie Mae) paved the way by the gift of a large lot on the corner of Hylan Avenue and Madison Street. This was truly a most generous gift and was deeply appreciated by the membership of the church. The deed for this lot was dated July 8, 1957, Book 378, Page 588, Richmond County, N. C., and made to the trustees of the First Baptist Church, namely R. M. Galloway, Sr., R. C. Ross, L. H. Williamson and H. C. Carroll.

The budget for 1958 was $90,000 or $1,730.77 per week. Victory Day was held to subscribe the budget. It was a glorious success as the budget was over-subscribed—$91,211. Four hundred thirty tithers were reported participating.

Early in the Fall of 1958, Dr. Willis gave notice that he was retiring but would continue to serve until a pastor was found. For the first time since 1921 it was necessary to appoint a pulpit committee. The following served on the committee: W. E. Brown—chairman, L. H. Williamson, C. C. Taylor, Bob Shaw, Dr. Mark Lindsey, D. N. Smart, Mrs. W. N. Cosby and Mrs. J. D. Nash. After visiting churches in North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee, the committee recommended that Rev. Benjamin Fayette Broadway be called. The church extended the call. Rev. Broadway came from St. George, S. C., looked over the church facilities, talked to many of the members and accepted the call as pastor. He began his pastoral duties April 12, 1959.

While the pulpit committee was seeking a pastor, a new pastorium was being built. The Pastorium Committee members were L. H. Williamson, chairman of the Board of Deacons, John C. Boney, Floyd Gibson, C. E. Coggin, Harvey Carroll, Mrs. Mark Lindsey, Mrs. Silas Ritter and Mrs. E. L. Jones. A lovely and commodious pastorium was erected and dedicated April 5, 1959, the day of Dr. Willis's retirement. Everything was in readiness for Rev. B. F. Broadway and family to move in. This day was "Jim Willis Day" in honor of our beloved Dr. Willis.

A statistical summary through September 30, 1958 covering all except the last six months of Dr. Willis's thirty-seven years ministry, showed the following achievements:

| | |
|---|---|
| Total amount of money raised | $949,138.65 |
| Total local expenses | 544,253.78 |
| Total to Missions & beneficiaries | 230,498.82 |
| Received by letter | 1,174 |
| Received by baptism | 1,147 |
| Membership September 30, 1958 | 1,216 |
| Non-resident members | 130 |
| Resident members | 1,086 |

Thus ended a period in the history of the First Baptist Church of Hamlet, North Carolina, in which on September 30, 1958, the church had the largest membership; the greatest number of tithers, the largest Sunday School enrollment, the highest enrollment of Vacation Bible School, and the largest amount of gifts for all causes of all the churches in the Pee Dee Association. All was achieved through the leadership of our beloved pastor, Dr. Willis, and his many dedicated co-workers.

## CHAPTER X

## THE BROADWAY ERA 1959-1970

Rev. Benjamin F. Broadway and his family moved into the lovely new pastorium the week prior to April 12, 1959, the date of his first Sunday as pastor. The congregation welcomed him, his charming wife Alice and children Ben, Jr., Bill, Bob and Jane.

On May 24, 1959 from 2:30 to 4:30 P.M. a reception was held in the church recreation room honoring Rev. Broadway and family. The room was most tastefully decorated with lovely spring flowers. Several hundred members of the church and townspeople came to welcome the new pastor and his family.

When Rev. Broadway came, the following were staff members: Miss Gwen Earp, secretary; Mrs. H. E. Hansen, Educational Director; Miss Martha Sue Pond, choir director; Mrs. J. M. Hall, organist; Roy Smith, janitor.

When the Pulpit Committee interviewed Rev. Broadway, he was told a new pastorium was awaiting the new pastor and that the church had on hand a sum of money which was to be applied on an educational building. Therefore, when Rev. Broadway came, he surveyed the facilities and needs after which he and the Deacons began serious discussions concerning the new building and the possibility of acquiring more land.

In making plans to build, it was found that the church still owed $750 to the Home Mission Board for help rendered when the present sanctuary was built. This debt was paid before any building was started.

The pastorium was cleared of debt October 30, 1959. Final payment was made possible by a gift of $1,000 willed to the church by Mr. T. O. McEwen in memory of his wife, who had been a faithful and tireless worker in the church. She served as Treasurer of the W.M.U. for 25 years or more. She died in 1950.

Rev. Broadway immediately set wheels in motion to achieve our building goal. In order to expand the church facilities, the church in conference in December, 1959 voted to buy the Covar and Colyar properties. The deed for the Colyar property was recorded January 18, 1960 and the Covar property on January 27, 1960.

By February 5, 1960 there was $54,000 in the Building Fund. Architects Andrews and McGrady of Greensboro, North Carolina were employed in March, 1960 to draw up plans for an Educational Building.

Committees were appointed to find an Educational Director and a Music Director. The Educational Committee recommended Miss Anna Rivers from Birmingham, Alabama. She was called and became a staff member on January 4, 1960. The Music Committee recommended Mr. Bruce Sloop of Goldsboro, North Carolina as Music Director. The church called him and he became Music Director in March, 1960.

Mrs. Z. V. Morgan attended the Baptist World Alliance in 1960 at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil after which she toured other South American countries. Our people were thrilled by her slides and narrations as she reported on the Alliance meeting.

Under Miss River's direction and the hard work of Sunday School workers, our Sunday School continued to minister to an average of over 400 each Sunday.

Under Mr. Sloop's supervision and direction, all our choirs did splendid work and from time to time different choirs performed for worship services. The Christmas presentations were particularly outstanding and enjoyed by the congregation. While Mr. Sloop was Music Director, he directed "The Messiah" at Christmas time, 1961, a most inspirational and inspiring performance, which was given in Fairview Heights School auditorium.

Attendance at morning worship service had increased to such an extent that an early service at 8:30 A.M. and another at 11:00 A.M. were held from June 5, 1960 to August 7, 1960.

On June 5, 1960, "The Voice" and "Bulletin" were combined.

The church in conference on August 28, 1960 voted to accept plans for the Educational Building to entertain the Pee Dee Association Annual Meeting on October 18, 1960, to participate in a School of Missions March 19-24, 1961, and authorized the trustees to dispose of the Helms house.

The Colonial parking lot was made available for church members on Sundays and nights beginning January 12, 1961.

Bids for erecting the Educational Building were received January 31, 1961. On February 12, 1961 in church conference 249 voted to build, 14 voted against building, 13 made no committment. The contract for $224,235 was let to the lowest bidder, the Atlantic Building Company of Charlotte, North Carolina. The contract was signed on March 4, 1961.

Ground Breaking Ceremonies were held March 19, 1961. Those participating were Rev. Ben Broadway, Dr. J. B. Willis, Dr. W. M. Pearce, Mr. Carl Andrews, a representative of Atlantic Building Company, and the church choir.

The Finance Committee for the Education Building was composed of W. E. Brown, W. C. Boney, Jr., Stacy Gibson, T. S. Colbert, and G. L. White.

For several years the church had had a building fund. The fund had grown to $60,000 by the time the plans were accepted. There was a need of $80,000 before building could begin. The first Sunday in November was designated as "Building Fund Day." The response was very gratifying. The balance was borrowed from the Hamlet Building and Loan Association.

The membership of the First Baptist Church had long dreamed of this building; so when the people were told of the need, they had a willingness to give. From March, 1961 to May, 1962 progress on the building was watched with eager anticipation. Finally came the day of the corner stone laying on March 11, 1962.

The long awaited day of dedication was May 6, 1962 at the 11:00 worship service.

From 2:00 to 5:00 P.M. on the Day of Dedication, May 6, 1962 the public was invited to "Open House" where they were welcomed by Rev. and Mrs. Broadway, the Deacons, their wives and workers from all organizations of the church. Guests were given a guided tour of the spacious and completely furnished building. Refreshments and fellowship were enjoyed by the host of friends who came.

"So we built the wall and joined it all together unto the half thereof: For the people had a mind to work." (Nehemiah 4:6)

**The Educational Building Committee**

| | |
|---|---|
| Dr. W. M. Pearce, *Chairman* | K. D. Ellis* |
| Mrs. E. L. Jones, *Secretary* | John Boney |
| L. W. Spencer, *Treasurer* | J. E. Howe |
| C. E. Coggin | Mrs. W. N. Cosby |

*For a number of years, prior to his death in 1964, Mr. Ellis had given generously of his time and energy in seeing that the sanctuary and other buildings were always clean and comfortable. He also took pride in the appearance of the grounds.

**The Staff**

Rev. B. F. Broadway ..... *Pastor*
Miss Anna Rivers ..... *Director of Religious Education*
E. Bruce Sloop ..... *Minister of Music*
Miss Sylvia Wright ..... *Church Secretary*
Roy Smith ..... *Janitor*

**Heads of Committees for Open House of the Educational Building**

Dr. W. M. Pearce ..... *Chairman of Furnishings*
Mrs. M. M. Lindsey ..... *Chairman of Decorations*
Mr. L. H. Williamson ..... *Arrangement of Tours*
Mrs. J. S. Ritter ..... *Invitations*
Mrs. H. F. Brown ..... *Refreshments*
Mrs. J. W. Crooke ..... *Refreshments*
Miss Sylvia Wright ..... *Brochures*

**Trustees**

L. H. Williamson
W. E. Brown
H. C. Carroll
R. M. Galloway, Sr.

**Deacons**

W. E. Brown, *Chairman*
C. E. Coggin
R. M. Galloway, Sr.
Charles Ashe, Sr.
E. E. King
D. D. Long
D. M. Long
J. D. Nash
H. E. Hansen
W. C. Tyner
George Cockman
H. C. Perry
W. C. Boney, Jr.
P. R. Uzzell
Dr. H. O. Queen
Dr. J. B. Willis
J. W. Wallace
J. D. Patterson
R. T. Willis, Jr.
Ben Boney
R. M. Galloway, Jr.
A. K. Maples
Dr. Mark Lindsey

Soon after the completion of the Education Building, the church in conference voted that the Educational Building was to be used for church related activities and the Bloodmobile.

The church participated in the "Forward Program" in November, 1961. This was a program to acquaint the congregation of the blessings derived from being good stewards of our material possessions. Tithing was stressed as set forth in the Bible. A fellowship dinner for all church members was a part of the program. The Sunday following the dinner was "Loyalty Day" when each church member was asked to sign a pledge card indicating what amount he or she would give per week or month for the following year.

Again in 1962 the church voted to take part in the "Forward Program." The Fellowship dinner was served in the Fellowship Hall on November 15, 1962. The guest speaker was Dr. William E. Denham of Houston, Texas. "Loyalty Day" followed on November 18, 1962 when pledges were made for the year 1963. Those responsible for the success of the Fellowship dinner and pledging were as follows:

Dr. H. O. Queen ..... *Chairman Stewardship Committee*
Mrs. Mark Lindsey .....*Fellowship Dinner*
Dr. Maylon McDonald ..... *Pledging Committee*
L. H. Williamson ..... *Pledging Committee*
George Cockman .....*Tally Committee*
Mrs. Hugh Queen .....*Publicity Committee*
Mrs. H. E. Hansen .....*Nursery and Junior Committee*
Mrs. A. A. Williams ..... *Reservation Committee*
Mrs. Paul Long .....*Secretary*

Miss Anna Rivers left December 31, 1962. She had been an inspiration to the youth of the church. She had made many friends, all of whom regretted her leaving.

A committee was appointed to secure another Educational Director. Those on the committee were Mrs. C. S. Monteith, Mrs. Jack Carroll, Dr. Maylon McDonald, J. T. Strickland and J. W. Jernigan.

Youth Week was March 24-29, 1963. It was amazing how well the young men and women carried out their assigned duties. It was a joy to see them perform in the various positions in the church, Sunday School and Training Union.

Early in 1962 the church undertook to sponsor a Boy Scout group. On February 16, 1963 this group was honored. Gus Shelton was Scout Master with J. H. Howell and L. O. Pruden as assistants. Many fine and able men devoted many hours to this wonderful group.

The committee seeking an Educational Director recommended John R. Prothro of Ft. Worth, Texas. He was called by the church June 30, 1963. He and his family arrived in July. They were given a reception in the Fellowship Hall on August 4, 1963.

Chaplain Harold B. Wells, the son-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Monteith, was a member of First Baptist Church. He and his family

went to Germany for a tour of military service. Before leaving he asked the church to accept as members those converts that he baptized. Permission was granted August 5, 1963. Several members were received into the church through his ministry.

On July 10, 1963 there was a church picnic on the church lawn. A large crowd enjoyed good fellowship and a variety of real Southern cooking. Having a church picnic has become an annual affair enjoyed by young and old alike.

The sanctuary was repainted late in 1963 giving it a more cheerful appearance. The organ had been repaired in February at a cost of $3,-700. One seldom realizes that operating church facilities is really a costly business.

The Christmas season of 1963 was made more meaningful by the participation of the various choirs. The choir leaders and accompanists had put much time and effort in training our youth. They were rewarded by the performances given. Our Senior Choir always thrills our hearts with their Christmas and Easter music.

Mr. Sloop resigned as Music Director on February 16, 1964. A committee immediately went to work to find a replacement.

Rev. Broadway was presented a gold watch on his fifth anniversary in February, 1964.

The Music Committee recommended as Music Director Mr. Lawrence Skinner of St. Andrews College, Laurinburg, North Carolina, whom the church voted to call. He accepted the call and began his duties on May 6, 1964. He resigned August 8, 1965 after serving 15 months. He was a most able and talented Music Director. His work was confined to the Senior Choir because of his duties at the college. The other choirs had efficient leaders, accompanists and sponsors.

The Southern Baptist Convention celebrated its Jubilee year at Atlantic City, New Jersey, May 19-22, 1964. The First Baptist Church was represented by the following messengers: Rev. B. F. Broadway, Mrs. F. L. Honeycutt, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Nash.

On May 31, 1964 the church celebrated the Jubilee year and had a fellowship hour after the evening worship honoring Rev. Broadway.

**Some of the HIGHLIGHTS OF 1965 are as follows:**

Ladies' Night Banquet, March 1, 1965.

Roy Smith, janitor, retired March 17, 1965. John (Frank) Martin, new janitor, hired April 8, 1965.

Church in conference voted to spend $4,050 on the organ.

Deacons voted on May 3, 1965 to proceed with "Tithe Now" program under the direction of the Stewardship Committee.

Messengers to the Baptist World Alliance in Miami Beach in 1965 were Mrs. B. F. Broadway, Mrs. F. L. Honeycutt, Mr. and Mrs. D. M. Wood, and Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Nash.

John Prothro was a messenger to the Southern Baptist Convention in Dallas, Texas in 1965.

There was a church picnic July 5 on the church lawn.

A new communion service was given to the church in memory of Billy Hicks by his wife and children with dedication service July 11, 1965.

Lawrence Skinner resigned as Music Director August 8, 1965.

Boy Scout Troop 8 received charter October 24, 1965.

Miss Sylvia Wright, church secretary, was married November 20, 1965, and resigned effective November 30, 1965. Mrs. Janice Hancock Turner was employed as secretary December 1, 1965.

There was special Christmas music by all choirs in December. A candle light service was held on December 24, 1965.

Mrs. Mary Snyder resigned as organist December, 1965.

Scout leaders were J. H. Howell and L. O. Pruden.

Plaque on hand to be placed at pastorium honoring Mr. and Mrs. B. R. Carroll.

**Some HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR 1966 are as follows:**

Mrs. J. M. Hall, acting organist January, 1966.

February 27, 1966, church in conference voted to buy land from Mr. Galloway to relocate heating equipment, 15' x 50' for $450. Bought April 7, 1966. Same conference—voted to participate in "Five Year Spiritual Growth Program," and to dissolve Building Committee responsible for Educational Building.

Mrs. C. R. Hayes (Martha Sue), organist and choir director began her duties June 1, 1966.

Mrs. Carnie McDonald (Beth Preslar), new church secretary July 1, 1966.

Church picnic July 13, 1966.

John Prothro resigned July, 1966.

Deacons voted for Pictorial Directory August, 1966.

Reception for the Prothos on August 14, 1966.

A committee was appointed to study the need of the church from a personnel standpoint. Members of the committee were Mrs. C. S. Monteith, J. T. Strickland, Mrs. H. C. Perry, T. E. Smart, L. H. Williamson, A. K. Maples and W. E. Brown.

Ralph and Rosalind Harrell had charge of the morning and evening worship services on September 4, 1966.

## THE YEAR 1967

A committee was appointed to seek an assistant to the pastor on January 22, 1967. The members were T. E. Smart, H. O. Queen, Dr. W. M. Pearce, W. C. Boney, Jr., and Mrs. C. S. Monteith.

The Easter cantata was most impressive.

Church in conference May 24, 1967 voted on a summer schedule as follows: Prayer Meeting 7:15 P.M., Worship Service 7:00 P.M., Fellowship 8:00 P.M. — June, July, and August.

Pictorial Directory distributed June, 1967.

Senior Citizens Day May 25, 1967. Rev. Charles S. Hubbard, speaker. Dinner in Fellowship Hall.

Pastorium ceiling insulated September, 1967. Pastorium air conditioned July, 1967.

Deacon election September 10, 1967.

Pee Dee Association met with First Baptist Church, Hamlet, second day October 17, 1967.

Chaplain Hubert Garrell and family and Rev. Edward Laffman and family became members of our church.

October 1, 1967 Rev. Hoyle Langford became our new Associational Missionary. Open House at the Langfords on November 5, 1967.

October 1, Rev. Broadway presented a plaque to Mr. William Douglas "Jack" Johnson in appreciation of "his untiring efforts in keeping the grounds and buildings in good condition".

Special Christmas music December, 1967. Observed White Christmas December, 1967.

## THE YEAR 1968

The committee to find an assistant pastor recommended Stanley P. Cabell, a student at Southeastern Seminary. The church voted to extend a call on 2-11-68. Mr. Cabell accepted the call and began part-time duties February 24. There was a reception for him on Sunday night, February 25. He began full-time work on June 3, 1968.

Ben Broadway, Jr. and Annette Swoffard were married February 15, 1968.

High school graduates were honored at a morning worship hour in May.

Jesse Robinson was hired as the new janitor.

Church fellowships on Sunday night during summer, 1968—ice cream, cake, watermelon, etc.

Miss Miriam Willis died July 22, 1968.

Mrs. Beth (Preslar) McDonald, secretary, resigned effective October 25, 1968. Mrs. Betty (Ingram) Poythress hired as new secretary September 30, 1968.

Stewardship emphasis week November 10-16, 1968. Sunday, "Venture in Family Living"—families seated together. Monday, "Venture in Money Management." Thursday, "Venture in Fellowship"—Fellowship dinner for all families in Fellowship Hall 7:00 P.M. Sunday, "Venture in Committment,"—members to consider stewardship committment.

Dr. Willis donated $40,000 to Wake Forest University for scholarships in the Music Department and in the Department of Religion and Philosophy.

The choirs rendered special Christmas music. The Youth Christmas Banquet was December 19, 1968. A candle light service was held December 29, 1968.

## THE CHURCH YEAR 1969

The Omega House opened for Youth Activities on January 10, 1969.

Baptist Men's Day January 26, 1969. Breakfast in Fellowship Hall.

February 9, 1969, Neal Peyton held services for Silent People at 7:00 P.M.

Church membership was divided among Deacons—each Deacon to visit and assist those on his group. This is called Deacon Care Plan.

Revival March 23-30. C. W. Barnes interpreted for Silent People.

Senior citizens of the church organized April 8, 1969. Organization called "JOY" Club—("Just Older Youths.") Officers elected were President—P. R. Uzzell, Vice President—Mrs. H. M. Shaw, Secretary—Miss Lottie Stroup, Treasurer—I. L. Freeman, Pianist—Mrs. I. L. Freeman, Band Leader—Mrs. P. R. Uzzell. Meetings of the "JOY" Club on the first Tuesday each month at 10:00 A.M.

May 25, 1969 "Dr. J. B. Willis Day" honoring Dr. Willis. Professor Jasper L. Memory was speaker for the occasion. Church picnic on lawn of the church at noon May 25. Open house in Fellowship Hall from 4:00-6:00 P.M. Hundreds of Dr. Willis's friends came to honor him.

Miss Cynthia Cook and Stanley P. Cabell were married June 21, 1969 in First Baptist sanctuary.

The Broadways were honored with a reception in Fellowship Hall on their 25th wedding anniversary from 4:00-6:00 P.M. on June 29, 1969.

Mrs. C. R. Hayes, organist, took a three months leave July-September, 1969. Mrs. Becky Evans Ethridge temporary organist from July-September.

Twenty-six young people went to Ridgecrest.

Revised Church Consititution was accepted by the church on June 8, 1969 and was distributed to church members on July 20, 1969.

Chaplain Johnny Singletary was appointed 1st Lt. in the Air Force August, 1969.

The church letter to the Pee Dee Association revealed the following facts in 1969; Resident members 687, Non-resident members 240, value of church property $500,000, debt at end of year $22,047, Sunday School enrollment 574, average Sunday School attendance 267, Vacation Bible School enrollment 198, Training Union enrollment 82, average Training Union attendance 37, Music Ministry enrollment 113, W.M.U. enrollment 206, Tithers 200, total of all gifts $92,378, total mission expenditures $25,691.

## CHURCH YEAR 1970

January 11, 1970, 14 more payments owed on Educational Building.

Deacon Care Plan mailed to each family.

May 10, 1970, Rev. Broadway resigned to become General Secretary of the Wilmington Baptist Association.

Church Training classes discontinued from June 7-September 13, 1970. Evening worship at 7:15-8:00 P.M.

Pulpit Committee elected 5-24-70. Members were T. E. Smart, J. W. Wallace, Mrs. H. O. Queen, Charles Alexander, Mrs. L. H. Williamson.

Stan Cabell resigned 6-14-70 to become pastor of Macedonia Baptist Church, Fayetteville, North Carolina.

May 1, 1970, Rev. Austin Lovin replaced Rev. Hoyle Langford as Associational Missionary.

Church reception honoring the Broadways and the Cabells on June 28, 1970 from 2:30-5:00 P.M.

Dr. John T. Bunn, Interim pastor July-October, 1970.

Mrs. Lowery Ballard, (Sandra Bolch), church secretary replaced Mrs. Betty (Ingram) Poythress August 31, 1970.

Church extended call to Rev. Billy G. Rivers on August 30, 1970.

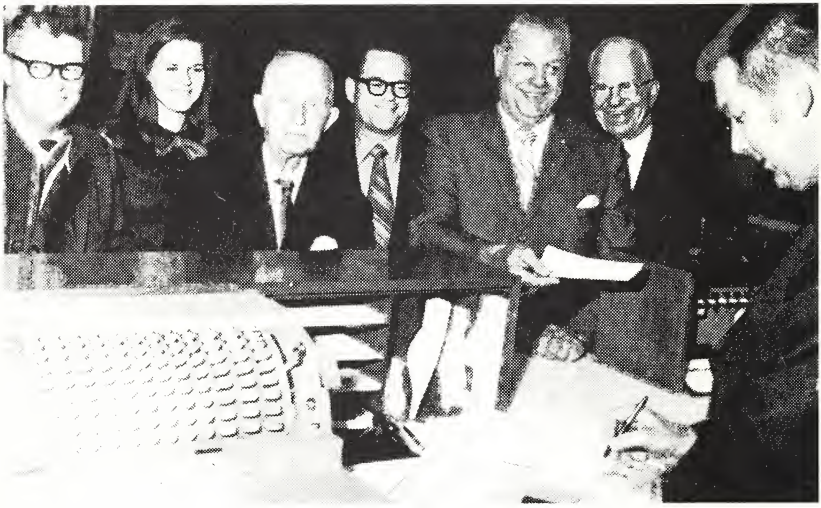
## CHAPTER XI

## THE RIVERS ERA 1970-1972

Rev. Billy G. Rivers and family arrived on October 16, 1970 to serve as pastor. The church gave them a warm and a hearty welcome as Rev. Rivers had been Associate Pastor to Dr. Willis from August, 1953, to October 16, 1955.

On October 5, 1970, Mr. C. W. Barnes began a sign language class under the sponsorship of Richmond Technical Institute.

The last payment on the Educational Building was made on November 19, 1970. At the Sunday morning worship service on November 22, the note was burned. The payments of $1,500 per month plus designated gifts to the Building Fund had enabled the church to pay off this debt to the Hamlet Savings and Loan Association in nine years instead of twelve. Those participating in the note burning were Dr. J. B. Willis, Rev. Billy G. Rivers, L. H. Williamson, Dr. W. M. Pearce, Mrs. E. L. Jones, W. E. Brown, and Harry Hansen.



**A DREAM BECOMES A REALITY**

A reception was given on November 22, 1970 in Fellowship Hall from 3:00 to 5:00 P.M. honoring Rev. Rivers and family.

At a church conference on November 29, 1970 it was voted to put $1,200 per month in Hamlet Savings and Loan Association on passbook savings. When $5,000 was accumulated, a certificate of deposit for this amount was to be purchased. This fund was to be known as the "Sanctuary Fund."

On December 20, 1970 at 5:00 P.M. the Senior Choir gave "The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols" which was most inspiring and beautiful.

On February 1, 1971 the following two committees were appointed;

**Sanctuary Building Committee**

H. E. Hansen
Vester Smith
Mrs. E. L. Jones
Mrs. L. H. Williamson
T. E. Smart
Dr. W. M. Pearce

**Planning Committee**

C. W. Barnes
Mrs. Jack Carroll
H. C. Carroll
W. C. Boney, Jr.
Charles Alexander
Tommy Stone
J. W. Wallace

On March 29, 1971 these two committees met with Mr. Richard Smith of the Baptist State Convention Building and Planning Board. On April 5 he sent guide lines for our Sanctuary Building and Planning Committees.

The church in conference on April 18, 1971, voted to pay for group insurance of staff members.

A bus was chartered to carry a group of young people to Greensboro, North Carolina to a Youth Crusade on May 1st and 2nd.

Deacons were assigned doors at which they would greet people on departing from morning worship service.

The need of new choir robes for the Junior and Youth Choirs was discussed and voted on. The motion was carried.

The need of baptismal robes was discussed. The Ordinance Committee was instructed to determine need and make necessary purchases.

On May 10, 1971, the deacons voted to have 400 copies of a church directory printed.

James S. Ritter, Jr. was extended a call as Assistant Pastor and Youth Minister on May 16, 1971.

At the Deacons' Meeting on June 7, 1971 D. C. Brown, L. H. Williamson, Harry Hansen, and A. K. Maples were appointed as a committee to study the parking facilities for the church. They were instructed to try to buy the Rabon property on Wilmington Street. The Deacons also voted to participate in the E. J. Daniels Crusade April 30-May 14, 1972—the cost to be the same as an individual church holding a revival.

By August 2 the Sanctuary Fund was $11,400 on Certificate of Deposit and $59.94 on passbook savings.

Rev. Rivers' expenses were paid to attend the Evangelism School in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Dr. W. M. Pearce, chairman of the Board of Deacons, appointed the following to serve on the Budget Committee: Mrs. Earline Byrd, C. W. Barnes, A. K. Maples, Mrs. E. L. Jones, and Robert Halyburton.

Expenditures for the church directory were presented to the church. The motion was made and passed on that money be allocated for the directory.

The Youth Choir robes were received early in September.

A World Mission Conference, Associational Wide, was held September 12-17, 1971. Speakers were from Associations, State, Home, and Foreign Mission Boards. Churches were privileged to hear a different speaker each night. Our church had the honor of having Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Mitchiner of Oxford, North Carolina as church guests for the week. Mrs. B. R. Carroll very graciously housed them, and the pastor and others provided breakfast.

Some statistics for the church ending September 30, 1971 are as follows: Present resident members 685, Present non-resident members 214, grand total members 899, Baptism 35, Other additions (by letter or statement) 18, Members lost (by letter, statement, and death) 33, Value of Pastorium $30,000, Value of church property including pastorium $500,000, Sunday School enrollment 627, Average Sunday School Attendance 247, Vacation Bible School enrollment 97, Church Training enrollment 95, Choir enrollment 110, Average choir attendance 90, Woman's Missionary Union enrollment 163, Tithers 200, Total gifts for the year $99,940.

## 1972

Dr. W. M. Pearce became a life-time Deacon on October 4, 1971. He has been active in every phase of church activities during his life.

Mr. Neil Peyton conducted a service for our silent people and the Sign Language Class on October 31, 1971. A fellowship followed the service.

Mrs. Sandra Bolch Ballard resigned as church secretary October 28, 1971 effective December 11, 1971. Mrs. David Davenport, Jr., replaced Mrs. Ballard.

James Ritter, Jr. was ordained to full-time Christian work on December 5, 1971.

Christmas was made more meaningful by the lovely music presented by the various choirs and the beautiful poinsettias placed on the rostrum.

Quarterly reports of all church organizations were given January 9, 1972. The treasurer's report was also given.

Mr. L. H. Williamson taught the Adult study "Catalyst in Missions" February 20, 1972.

The W.M.U. of the First Baptist Church of Hamlet was presented a certificate for having exceeded its goal to the Heck-Jones Offering for two consecutive years and was also recognized as an advanced organization at the W.M.U. State Convention which was held at Winston-Salem, N. C., March 14-16. Several ladies from our W.M.U. attended the meeting.

The Annie Armstrong Easter offering goal was set at $1,200. This amount plus $9 was raised.

The Pee Dee Baptist Associational Youth Night was held at Hamlet First Baptist Church on March 18. The youth of our church presented a musical "It's the Lord's Thing."

On March 30, the youth program for the Summer of 1972 was carried in "The Voice." It was as follows:

1. Caswell retreat for youth, April 14-16
2. Day Camp 9:00-12 noon, June 19-23, Ages 3, 4, 5
3. Vacation Bible School (Ages 3-12 morning, older youths at night) June 26-30
4. Youth Week at Caswell (Ages 12-19) July 3-7
5. Older Youths retreat (Ages 13 to college) July 10-12
6. Ridgecrest July 13-19
7. Day Camp (9 A.M.-Noon, Ages 6, 7, 8) July 24-28
8. Youth Week at Caswell July 31-August 4
9. Day Camp (Ages 9, 10, 11, 12) August 14-18
10. Older Youth Retreat (Ages 13-College) August 21-23

"The Voice" of March 30, 1972, announced the start of a Handbell Fund. Mr. and Mrs. Tom Smart began the fund in memory of Mrs. Smart's mother, Mrs. James Bruce.

On April 3, there was a rally at the First Baptist Church, Rockingham, in interest of the E. J. Daniel Crusade which was held at Tri-City Shopping Center between Hamlet and Rockingham from April 30-May 14.

An Easter Cantata "Death and Life" was beautifully rendered by the Adult Choir on Easter Sunday morning (April 2). This was followed by an "Easter Mediation" by the pastor.

On April 16 the church in conference voted to buy a new bus for church group activities.

The E. J. Daniel Crusade from April 30-May 14 was very successful. Many people were converted under the preaching of Donnie Cantwell, a young evangelist still in college.

The high school seniors of our church were recognized and honored at the morning worship hour on May 28.

The Ralph Harrells had charge of the evening service on June 18. A reception followed the service. It is always a joy to have the Harrells visit us when on furlough.

The new activity bus was dedicated at 12:00 Noon July 9 in the church parking lot.

In "The Voice" of July 20, an announcement was made that the Belk Company had given its property on Hamlet Avenue to the First Baptist Church.

On July 26 at Prayer Meeting, Mrs. Blanche Clarkin shared some experiences and slides on Nigeria where she visited her brother, John Hill, a missionary.

REV. J. S. RITTER shown with bus.

The following Deacons were elected July 20 at the morning worship service: Ben P. Boney, Ben F. Broadway, Jr., J. Wallace Jernigan, T. L. Nowell, and H. C. Perry. Robert F. Beck was elected to fill an unexpired term.

The "JOY" Club traveled on the new bus to Chesterfield, South Carolina, on September 5 for a retreat at our pastor's fish pond.

The evening worship hour was changed to 5:30 P.M. beginning September 10 and Sunday night activities to 6:30 P.M.

On Sept. 10th the pastor paid tribute from the pulpit and "The Voice" to Mrs. Augusta Scarborough for her many years of faithful service as Assistant Nursery worker. Mrs. Scarborough resigned because of health reasons.

Preparation for the coming revival (October 8-12) was made by appointing eleven committees with 210 people participating.

The Associational Year closed September 30, 1972. The following facts and statistics were taken from our church letter to the Associational office: Pastor—Rev. Billy G. Rivers, Ass't Pastor—Rev. James S. Ritter, Jr., Youth Director—James S. Ritter, Jr., Secretary—Mrs. Lynda Davenport, Organist—Mrs. C. R. Hayes, Sunday School Director—Rev. James S. Ritter, Jr., Church Training Director—Dr. W. M. Pearce, W.M.U. Director—Mrs. F. L. Honeycutt, Chairman of Deacons—L. H. Williamson, Church Clerk—Mrs. George Cockman, Church Treasurer—C. W. Barnes, Finance Chairman—T. E. Smart, Representative on Executive Board—Olin Gardner, Minister ordained during the year—Rev. James S. Ritter, Jr., Baptisms in 1972 church year 11, other additions 21, members lost 39, total membership 892, number of tithers 200, cooperative gifts 24% of budget, Associational missions 2% of budget, value of church property $500,000, number of active deacons 20, Sunday School enrollment 540, average Sunday School attendance 253, Church Training enrollment 145, Average Church Training attendance 101, Church Music enrollment 93, average music attendance 85, W.M.U. organizations 8, Total W.M.U. enrollment 175, Crusaders (Royal Ambassadors) 17, Total receipts $108,014, Deaths 14.

"So let our lips and lives express
The holy gospel we profess:
So let our works and virtues shine,
To prove the doctrine all divine."

From Hymn, "So Let Our Lips and Lives Express"
BY: Isaac Watts

On October 1, 1972, a new church year began. It is fitting to give some items of interest which will take us to the dawning of the new year.

The revival preacher was Rev. W. J. Thompson of Matthews, North Carolina. The revival began October 8 and continued through October 12. Rev. Thompson stirred our hearts with his messages.

Baptist Women's Day of Prayer was observed November 7 with Rev. J. G. Goodwin, missionary from Korea as guest speaker.

At 7:30 P.M. November 7, Mrs. J. G. Goodwin taught the Foreign Mission Study, "Europe—A Mission Field."

On November 19, 1972, at 5:30 P.M., a special musical program was given by the Primary and Junior Choirs. Our Handbell Ringers also performed for the first time. Leaders of the Primary Choir were Miss Ercie Stroup and Mrs. Richard Thomas. Pianist was Mrs. C. A. Whitlock. Director of the Junior Choir was Mrs. W. M. Pearce, and the Pianist was Mrs. C. R. Hayes. Mrs. T. E. Smart led the Handbell Ringers.

The Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions was observed December 3-10. First Baptist Church's goal for Lottie Moon Christmas offering was $2,300. The church exceeded this goal.

At the Sunday December 10 evening worship service, the "JOY" Christmas Special was presented. It was a program of songs and the Christmas Story presented by the pastor and senior citizens of the "Just Older Youths" Club.

At 5:30 P.M. Sunday, December 17, there was a Christmas program of music, "Let Us Adore Him with Singing," presented by all choirs except the Senior Citizens ("JOY") Choir.

On December 24 at the morning worship hour, there was special Christmas music. Soloist was Miss Beth Queen accompanied by Miss Becky Thomas. The Youth Handbell Groups also performed. Those present were delighted with the performance.

All the various organizations of the church from the youngest to the oldest had some special treat planned in observance of the Christ Child's coming.

Special Watch-Night Services began at 8:30 P.M. and continued until midnight when bells rang out the old and rang in the new.

"O God of our fathers, we praise and adore Thee
For all Thy great mercies through years that are gone:
Thy guidance and goodness through many generations
Have brought us now at last to a new day's bright dawn."

From: Anniversary Hymn
BY: Edward Hughes Pruden

## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF PASTORS

Rev. Thomas Benjamin Newberry and Rev. John Monroe of Spring Hill Baptist Church of Wagram were the organizers of Hamlet Baptist Church (now First Baptist) on September 28, 1878. Rev. Monroe was such an outstanding religious leader that this article may be of interest

From: Baptist Encyclopedia
By: William Cathcart D.D. 1881

### REV. JOHN MONROE

"No minister in North Carolina of any denomination is more respected for his piety and usefulness than this venerable man. He was born in Richmond County, North Carolina in October, 1804. His parents emigrated from the Highlands of Scotland in 1803. He was baptized into the fellowship of the Spring Hill Baptist Church in 1819; began to preach in 1825; had labored extensively in the counties of Anson, Richmond and Robeson, North Carolina, and Marlboro, South Carolina, and during the 55 years of his ministry, he has been pastor of the Spring Hill Church. For 20 years he was Moderator of the Pee Dee Association and would still fill that place did not the infirmities of age permit."

Rev. Monroe continued to serve his church several years after the above article was written. He died July 29, 1889.

### REV. THOMAS BENJAMIN NEWBERRY (1878)

The facts concerning Rev. Newberry, the first pastor of Hamlet Baptist Church, are sketchy. He was born in Fayetteville, North Carolina, February 24, 1839. He was ordained to preach the gospel on February 17, 1871. From Pee Dee and other Association Minutes, it was found that he labored as a Circuit Rider in Robeson, Richmond, Montgomery, Anson and Stanley Counties. His address was Rockingham, North Carolina, from November, 1881, to 1885. From 1886 until his death his address was Fayetteville, North Carolina.

Records show that he organized the Baptist Church at Hoffman shortly after the Hamlet Baptist Church was constituted. Both the Hamlet and Hoffman Churches applied for membership in the Pee Dee Association October. 1878.

From "North Carolina Baptist" on December 13, 1899: "Rev. Thomas B. Newberry who established "North Carolina Baptist" in January, 1891, died at his home in Fayetteville, Tuesday night, December 12 (1899). He had been in poor health for several years and for some weeks before his death, was confined to his bed. He had not been in the active ministry for quite a while. For two years immediately preceding his death, he had been engaged in the furniture business. He leaves three sons, one in Alabama, one in Georgia and one in Fayetteville. He will be buried Thursday afternoon."

He was laid to rest in Cross Creek Cemetery, Fayetteville, North Carolina.

Rev. Newberry's wife was Sarah Oliphant. She was born July 7, 1844. The Newberrys had three sons—Walter, Claud, and Charley. Mrs. Newberry lived until September 26, 1920, presumably in Fayetteville. She was buried beside her husband in Cross Creek Cemetery.

The children of Charley Newberry, two daughters and a son, live in Fayetteville today. A daughter, Mrs. E. C. Hill, said there was no picture of her grandfather and she knew very little about him as he died when she was quite young. However, she did state that there was a lovely stained glass window in the First Baptist Church of Fayetteville, placed there by her father in memory of her grandfather. The inscription on the window read "Rev. T. B. Newberry—1837-1899—Founder of the 'North Carolina Baptist.'"

It is regrettable that so little is recorded of this preacher known as the "Circuit Rider." He braved cold, heat, wind, rain and perhaps snow in order to break the bread of life with hungry souls, many times in out-of-the-way places. Surely his name is written in the Lamb's Book in Heaven.

*Note: There is a discrepancy in the date of birth of Rev. Newberry. The dates printed here are as reported on his tombstone and the window in the First Baptist Church of Fayetteville, North Carolina.*

## REV. JOHN MONROE BENNETT (1882)

Rev. John Bennett, our second pastor, was born November 28, 1856, about six miles above Ellerbe, North Carolina, on a farm now known as Clayton-Carriker Home. His father was Gardner Bennett. His mother was Martha Covington before her marriage. John Monroe Bennett had one brother, Preston, and a sister, Ellen.

Prior to entering Wake Forest College, he traveled extensively in Europe where he no doubt learned several languages as he was reputed to have spoken six languages. He was a student at Wake Forest College 1880-1882.

Upon leaving college he accepted his first pastorates, namely Mt. Gilead, Pekin, Bethel, Palmerville and Hamlet. His address was Mt. Gilead, North Carolina.

On December 27, 1882, Rev. John Monroe Bennett and Annie Amelia Wooley were united in marriage at the Calvin Wooley home between Troy and Mt. Gilead. The Rev. C. M. Pepper performed the ceremony. To this union were born one son and three daughters. One daughter, Lelia Lightfoot, married John Arnold Walker. It is from Mrs. Walker and her daughter, Mrs. John Gore, of Rockingham, North Carolina that these facts have been obtained.

The year 1882, the Hamlet Church was fortunate to have such an able man as pastor. He was not only a preacher but also an educator, vitally interested in seeing that young people had places and opportunities of learning.

Churches where Rev. Bennett preached, the schools which he organized and in which he taught are known but the sequence is uncertain in some cases.

While living in Palmerville, Rev. Bennett organized the First Baptist Church of Albemarle with five other people. He preached there for two years.

It is known that he taught history and English at the Professor Eddins Academy about this time. His next move was to a full-time church at Lexington, North Carolina.

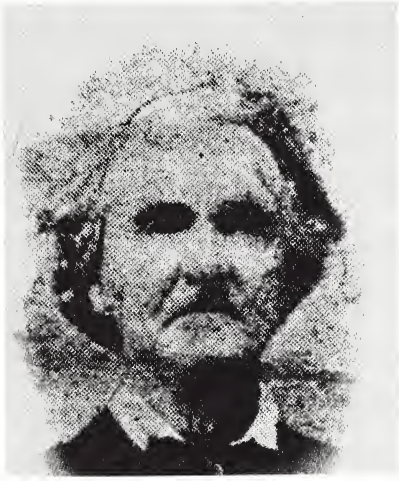
Other churches in Davidson County where Rev. Bennett ministered were Reeds, Fork and Churchland. While at Reeds he organized Reed's Collegiate Institute, getting his teachers from Wake Forest College. He remained at Reeds for four or five years.

Churchland, so named because of a church on each of four corners of the town, was perhaps the best loved of all Rev. Bennett's churches as he was pastor here twice, serving altogether about 25 years. Here he organized a boarding school and was later the head of the first public school of Churchland.

Some other of his pastorates were Trading Fork in Rowan County for 10 years and the First Baptist Church of Burgaw, North Carolina. At Elm City, North Carolina, he had four churches. His next pastorate was Sylva, North Carolina, where he served from 1911 to 1914. While here he taught Bible at Sylva Collegiate Institute. He and his family lived in a dormitory here for two years. Mrs. Bennett taught music both here and previously at Churchland. Other churches where Rev. Bennett preached were Franklin, North Carolina; Pineville, North Carolina; and Walterboro, South Carolina.

Because of Rev. Bennett's poor health, he retired in 1926 and moved to Ellerbe where he served the Baptist Church, which was without a pastor. He served as Interim Pastor for six months or longer.

From Ellerbe the Bennetts moved to Canton, North Carolina. Preston S. W. Bennett, their only son, was pastor at West Asheville Baptist Church. While on a visit to his son, Rev. Bennett died June 26, 1931, and was laid to rest at Canton, North Carolina. He was 75 years old. Thus closed 44 years of ministry of one of God's faithful servants.



REV. JOHN MONROE

One of the organizers of Hamlet Baptist Church.

REV. JOHN MONROE BENNETT
2nd Pastor

## REV. JOSEPH HAMPTON AUSTIN (1891)

### Third Pastor

Rev. Joseph Hampton Austin, the third pastor of the Hamlet Baptist Church, was born in Union County March 27, 1844. His family moved to the Wolf Pit township in Richmond County when he was very young.

While Hamlet was yet a small, struggling community, Rev. Austin became pastor in 1891 but perhaps he served longer. (There were no reports to the Pee Dee Association for 1892 and 1893.)

Rev. Austin had served in Co. D 37th N. C. regiment during the Civil War. This regiment was of the famous Lanis Brigade of Jackson's Corps in the Army of Northern Virginia with Robert E. Lee the Commander-in-chief.

Poor health caused Rev. Austin to give up his pastoral work and seek outside work in the open air. He became one of Hamlet's first contracting carpenters. It is known that at one time he lived at 501 Oak Street; and being a carpenter, it is assumed he built the house.

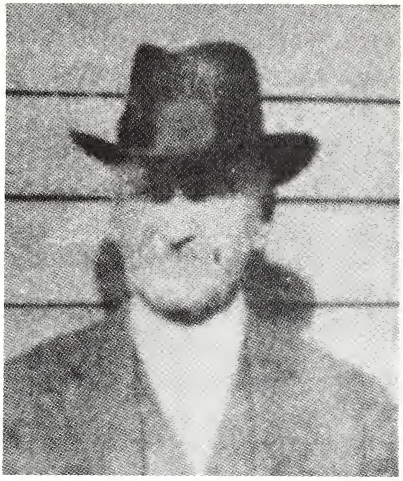
Rev. Austin was married to Sarah Elizabeth Lockhart, an aunt of Mrs. E. P. Pearce. To members of the family, Rev. Austin was affectionately known as "Uncle Hamp." From this union were born five sons and three daughters. The sons were J. E., G. V., and Claude Austin of Hamlet, Rev. M. D. Austin of Pueblo, Colorado, and J. H. Austin, Jr., of McColl, S. C. The daughters were Mrs. Dora Kendall of Kinston, North Carolina, Mrs. J. C. Worley and Miss Ella Austin of Hamlet, N. C.

Mrs. Austin died December 4, 1915, and was buried in Pleasant Grove Baptist Church cemetery.

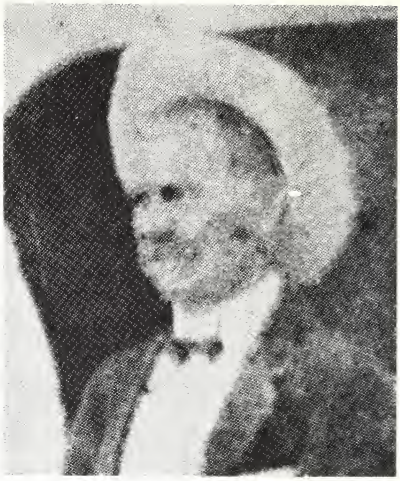
From the Pee Dee Association minutes, J. H. Austin was listed many times among the messengers from the Hamlet Baptist Church. According to C. B. Deane's notes, Rev. J. H. Austin was pastor in 1921 after Rev. J. M. Page left and before Rev. J. B. Willis came in February, 1922.

Rev. Austin suffered an attack of influenza from which he never fully recovered. This was followed a year later by a stroke. He died May 10, 1923, and was buried beside his wife in the Pleasant Grove Baptist Church cemetery on May 11, 1923. The funeral service was conducted by Rev. J. B. Willis and Rev. Bruce Benton of Rockingham, North Carolina.

We are indebted to Mrs. Thelma Worley Hendley (deceased) for the picture and much of the information concerning her grandfather.



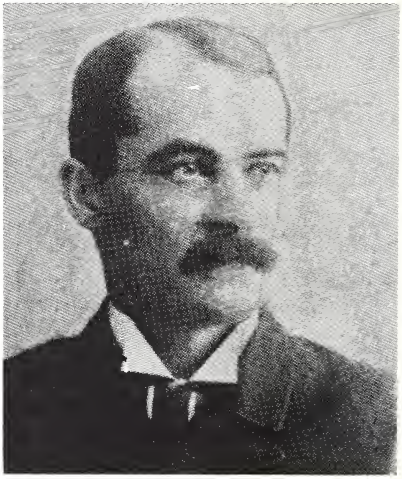
REV. JOSEPH HAMPTON AUSTIN
3rd Pastor



REV. THOMAS SHARPE WRIGHT
4th and 6th Pastor

REV. WILLIAM J. FULFORD
5th Pastor

REV. CHARLES HENRY MARTIN
7th Pastor



## REV. THOMAS SHARPE WRIGHT (1894-1895)

### Fourth Pastor

Rev. Thomas Sharpe Wright was a native of Anson County, North Carolina. He was born May 5, 1846. He served as pastor of Hamlet Baptist Church in 1894 and 1895. Records show he was again pastor in 1897 and perhaps longer. (There are no records for 1898 and 1899.) Reports on the progress of the church at this time were given in Chapter IV.

Rev. Wright was also a signer of the petition in 1897 when the Rockingham Masonic Lodge No. 495 applied for a charter.

Thomas Sharpe Wright served in the last two years of the Civil War. His company and rank are unknown.

From the obituary of Rev. Wright (or Sheriff Wright as he was better known) which appeared in "The State" newspaper of Columbia, South Carolina, on November 8, 1921, it was stated that he was sheriff of Richmond County from 1890 to December, 1904.

He was a staunch Democrat and a good law enforcement officer who was downright vehement about white supremacy. He preached the Gospel with zeal and conviction.

It was stated in the "Anglo-Saxon" (a newspaper in Rockingham) issue of June 22, 1899, that Sheriff Wright had four churches and three missions yet he found time to visit the sick.

Rev. Wright was married to Isabelle Nash of Palmerville, North Carolina. They had two sons and five daughters. Mrs. Wright died in Spartanburg, South Carolina, April 24, 1914, at the age of 58 and was buried in the Bethel Church cemetery just a few miles from New London, North Carolina.

Rev. Wright was ordained a Baptist minister soon after the close of the Civil War. He was pastor of the following Baptist Churches: Pleasant Grove, Gum Springs, Peachland and Hamlet in the Pee Dee Association and Silver Springs in the Stanley Association.

When Rev. Wright was no longer sheriff, he moved to South Carolina where he continued to do ministerial work. He died November 6, 1920, at the home of a daughter, Mrs. Ed Young, in Columbia, South Carolina. He had been in failing health for a year before his death. His body was carried to New London, North Carolina, and laid to rest beside his wife. He was 75 years of age.

Two grandchildren of Rev. Wright are now living in Hamlet, namely James Wright and Mrs. Flake Martin. Much of this information and the picture of Rev. Wright were obtained from James Wright. There are also two other grandsons, namely John F. Wright of Cheraw, S. C. and Thomas H. Wright of Dillon, S. C.

Mrs. J. P. Ott, a sister of Rev. Wright is living in Bradenton, Fla.

## REV. WILLIAM J. FULFORD (1896)

### Fifth Pastor

Rev. William J. Fulford served the Hamlet Baptist Church as pastor for the year 1896. He was born in 1838—place and parents unknown. He had held pastorates at many churches in North Carolina and some in South Carolina before coming to Rockingham in January, 1896. He was also pastor at Cartledge Creek Baptist Church while living in Rockingham, North Carolina.

The Hamlet Church was very weak with perhaps eleven members. The salary was small if anything. Rev. Fulford was bookkeper for Watson Hardware Company and Watson Undertaking establishment.

In 1891 Rev. Fulford had been managing editor of "The North Carolina Baptist"—a paper owned and operated by our first pastor, Rev. T. B. Newberry.

Rev. Fulford was a signer of the petition for a charter of Masonic Lodge No. 495 of Rockingham. He was the second Worshipful Master which office he held from June, 1899, to 1902. He was Mayor of Rockingham 1901-1902.

Rev. Fulford was married twice. His first wife was Miss Josephine Harris. From this union there was one daughter. Mrs. Fulford died in Rockingham on September 16, 1898, and is buried in East Side Cemetery. His second wife was Miss Kate McLean of Scotland County. They were married in Wadesboro on January 29, 1903. The ceremony was performed by Rev. J. F. Love, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Wadesboro. Rev. Fulford had moved to Wadesboro in 1902.

Miss Kate McLean was born September 27, 1861. Her parents came from two distinguished families. Her father was Robert McLean and her mother was Flora McMillan. She was a great niece of Rev. John Monroe. She outlived Rev. Fulford by almost 18 years, having died August 5, 1929. She was buried in the cemetery at Raeford, North Carolina, with members of the McLean family.

For a while Rev. Fulford had to give up preaching on account of throat trouble. He supported himself by keeping books. After an enforced rest he was pastor in Southern Pines, North Carolina. Soon he was forced to retire from active service. His last years were spent at Raeford, North Carolina, where he was busy in prayer meetings, Sunday School and as temporary church clerk, working at organizing old church records.

Rev. Fulford began his ministry as a Methodist, but his convictions led him to become a Baptist. He was handicapped by a weak body but had tireless energy, strong convictions and enthusiasm for life. For the last half of his life, he gave ten per cent of his income to the Lord's

work. He testified that he had never lacked for anything. He never held any great pastorate but labored in small struggling churches among the common people where the mightiest forces have made the greatest strides. He died February 8, 1911, in Raeford. His burial place is most likely an unmarked grave beside his first wife in East Side Cemetery in Rockingham as it has been found from records that he was given a Masonic funeral by the Masonic Order of Rockingham.

These facts were gleaned from "Biblical Recorders" and old Rockingham papers. We are indebted to Mrs. Dora Lampley of Wadesboro, North Carolina, and to Mr. and Mrs. H. M. McLean, Jr., of Lumberton, North Carolina, for the picture of Rev. Fulford.

### Sixth Pastor (1897)

Rev. T. S. Wright was again the pastor in 1897 and perhaps even longer. (No records from 1898 to 1902 have been found.)

## REV. CHARLES HENRY MARTIN (1902)

### Seventh Pastor

Rev. Charles Henry Martin was called as pastor in 1902. Things began to improve upon his acceptance of the pastorate. When approached about becoming the pastor, he said he would accept the call provided the salary would be $75 per month and he be allowed to pay half of it. He came to the church under this condition. Records show the pastor was paid $37.50 per month.

Rev. Martin was born in 1848 near Youngsville, Franklin County, North Carolina. His great-grandfather was Nathaniel Macon, a distinguished North Carolinian, who had served 57 years as a Representative in Congress and United States Senator.

Charles Henry Martin attended Wake Forest College and was graduated with highest honors in the class of 1872. He remained at Wake Forest College for the next two years as Professor of Latin. He next studied law at the University of Virginia where he was a member of Delta Psi Fraternity. After graduation he practiced law with Judge T. W. Timberlake in Louisburg, North Carolina, and later in Raleigh with Mr. Armstead Jones.

Rev. Martin married Miss Mary Lemuel Williams in 1889. She was the daughter of Isaac M. Williams and Mrs. Ellen Bennett Williams of the prominent Bennett family of Anson County, North Carolina. She was educated at Thomasville Female College, Thomasville, North Carolina, and Shelby College, Shelby, North Carolina. She was a

talented and accomplished musician, playing the piano, violin, and Italian harp. Mrs. Martin was a charming and beautiful woman. A lovely life-size painting of her hangs in the home of a son, Mr. Isaac Martin, in Polkton, North Carolina. Mrs. Martin died June 2, 1925.

The teaching profession called Mr. Martin to Murfreesboro, North Carolina, where he taught Latin at Chowan College. Later he became principal of Yadkin Mineral Springs Academy at Palmerville, Stanley County, North Carolina. Upon leaving Palmerville, North Carolina, he attended the Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky, where he studied for the ministry.

While this learned and scholarly man was engaged in his duties as a pastor, he was nominated for Congress with no solicitation on his part. He was elected and served the old sixth district as Congressman the 54th and 55th sessions of Congress (1894-1898).

After serving as Congressman, he served the Polkton Church and many other churches during his ministry. Hamlet was one of his pastorates in 1902. He had a passion for lost souls, possessed a deep and abiding faith and preached the Word of God with sincerity.

Other talents of Rev. Martin were writing poetry and articles for various publications. He had written a book which was ready for the publishers a short time before his death.

Rev. Martin died April 19, 1931. He left four children to mourn his home going—Miss Annabel Martin who died in 1962, Lucie M. Martin of Washington, D. C., Isaac W. Martin of Polkton who supplied the picture and Mrs. Mildred M. Carter of Lexington to whom we are indebted for the facts concerning her father.

## REV. LEROY NORCROSS CHAPPELL (1903-1906)

### Eighth Pastor

It is hard to believe that it would be so difficult to find information on one who had served six years as a Southern Baptist missionary to China.

Leroy Norcross Chappell was born in Kinston, North Carolina, April 14, 1860. His father was Dr. Leroy Chappell. When Rev. Chappell was quite young, the family moved to Forestville, North Carolina, where he spent his boyhood. He was known as "Roy."

The name "Forestville, North Carolina," was an enigma. The name had not been carried as a post office for many, many years. After Wake Forest College was built, the railroad named the station Wake Forest while the town of Forestville lost its identity and became known as Wake Forest. However, there remains a Forestville Baptist Church just a short distance out of Wake Forest.

Roy Chappell received his education at Forestville School, Wake Forest College, and the University of Virginia. He prepared himself for the teaching profession and returned to Wake Forest College as a professor.

Under the preaching of Dr. Bryan, he volunteered as a foreign missionary and attended the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Upon graduation he was appointed to overseas service on June 5, 1888. On July 18, 1888, he and Miss Mary Ella Moore were married and soon after departed for China where they served in Chinkiang, Central China Mission for six years.

After returning from China in 1895, Rev. Chappell held pastorates in North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia.

The Hamlet Baptist Church called Rev. Chappell in 1903. At this time he was pastor at Lilesville at which place he resided. With his coming there were preaching services on the first and third Sundays. The church showed a steady growth under his leadership. When he came in 1903, the membership numbered 18. His last year with the Hamlet Church in 1906, the membership had grown to 49. Soon after his coming to Hamlet, he saw the need for a church building and forthwith set about inspiring the members to give to this end. The second church was built in 1905 on the lot where the first church stood.

The year 1905 is significant in our history. Not only was the second church built this year, but also our total gifts of $1,001.68 exceeded gifts of any other church in the association. Our gifts to missions amounted to $71.89. This was more than all previous years combined. The church membership had caught Rev. Chappell's enthusiasm for the cause of missions.

Rev. Chappell left Hamlet in 1906, and for a few years he held pastorates in South Carolina from which he went to Guyton, Georgia, for a number of years. Because his health began to fail, he retired about 1922 and went to Atlanta to live. There he was a loyal and faithful member of Druid Hills Baptist Church. He died Sunday night October 9, 1932. Funeral services were held October 11, 1932, with Dr. Louie D. Newton, his pastor, officiating. His body was brought back and buried in the Forestville Baptist Church cemetery, Wake Forest, N. C. He was survived by his wife, Mrs. Ella Chappell, a son, Leroy N. Chappell, Jr., and a daughter, Eleanor.

Mrs. Chappell lived until 1944. She is buried beside her husband.

The Foreign Missions Board, the "Biblical Recorder," the "Christian Index," and the "Atlanta Constitution" were sources of information. Miss Louise Beddingfield of Raleigh, North Carolina, a cousin of Rev. Chappell, contributed the picture.

## REV. EDWARD ROWLAND HARRIS, SR. (1906-1907)

### Ninth Pastor

More information was available on Rev. Harris than any of our early pastors. This was due to the fact that two daughters, Mrs. Lucille H. Lyon of Creedmore, North Carolina, and Mrs. Samuel H. Lamb of Chesapeake, Virginia, had an autobiography of their father and a picture. Rev. Clarence Bishop of Florence Avenue Baptist Church of Virginia, Virginia, also donated a brief sketch of Rev. Harris who had been a former pastor of Florence Avenue Baptist Church.

In October, 1906, the Rev. Edward Rowland Harris came as our pastor. He was the son of Rev. Daniel Jefferson Harris and Louisa Ruth Blevins Harris. He was born December 27, 1873, at Falls Branch in Washington County, Tennessee. Soon after his birth the family moved back to Scott County, Virginia. It was here that Edward Harris attended school in a log building and later better school buildings. When Edward was in his teens, his father moved to Allegheny County, North Carolina, then to Yanceyville, serving churches in both counties.

When Edward was twenty years old, he felt called to preach. At first he preached in school houses and brush arbors. He was clerk of the Beulah Association for three years and later served as a missionary of this association.

Feeling the need of more education, he enrolled at Bethel Hill Academy near Roxboro, North Carolina, for a session and a half. From there he went to Wake Forest College in 1898 and was graduated with an A.B. degree the Spring of 1902. During his college days, he was pastor of several country churches.

Rev. Harris was ordained at the Youngsville Baptist Church in 1899. The request was made by his home church in Youngsville.

After his graduation from Wake Forest College, he married Miss Sallie Rogers of Wake County, North Carolina, in 1902. They moved to Durham, North Carolina, where he was pastor of the Edgemont Baptist Church which had a membership of 27 members. This was during the first year of the church's organization. Rev. Harris labored here four years and saw the membership grow to over three hundred. During these years in Durham, his wife and youngest child died. He was left with a young daughter (now Mrs. Lucille H. Lyon of Creedmoore, North Carolina).

In 1906 Rev. Harris married Miss Nora Styron of Durham, North Carolina. It was in October of this year that he became pastor of the Hamlet Baptist Church. He remained just one year until October, 1907, but this year was outstanding. This was the first time services

were held each Sunday. The church membership increased about 50% over the year before. The church was paying the pastor $450 a year, $1,054.54 was raised on the building fund. Total gifts for all causes were the largest in history—$1,790.39.

Rev. Harris later wrote that he found the people in Hamlet very cordial and kind, but a desire to better prepare himself for his work caused him to give up his pastorate and enter the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky.

After receiving his degree in 1909 at the Seminary, he went to the Mars Hill Baptist Church, Mars Hill, North Carolina, for three years. The next year was spent as pastor at West Point, Virginia. From 1913-1915 he was pastor at Morehead City, North Carolina. From 1915-1918 he was pastor at Sylva, North Carolina, and gave some time to teaching Bible and history at Sylva Collegiate Institute. From 1918-1920 he was principal of Yancey Collegiate Institute at Burnsville, North Carolina (a mountain mission school). From 1920-1923 he taught in the public schools of Burnsville, serving as principal for two of these years. He was also pastor of several country churches. In 1923 he was called to the Creedmore field of churches for two years. The last year at the Creedmore Baptist Church 71 joined the church, 55 of them by baptism. In 1925 Rev. Harris accepted the call to the Virginia Field, Virginia, Florence Avenue Baptist Church, just over the line in North Carolina, and to these in Virginia—Nelson, Grace, North Fork, Aarons Creek and Hitesburg. He served this field for 23 years. Each church showed amazing growth under his leadership. He retired January 22, 1948.

Rev. Harris was a member of the Ministers' Relief Board of the Southern Baptist Convention from 1902-1906. From 1923-1926 he served on the Board of Missions of the North Carolina Baptist Convention. From 1939-1942 he was moderator of the Dan River Baptist Association.

Mrs. Harris studied Bible while she and her husband were at the seminary. No doubt she was an able assistant to her husband, besides being a busy homemaker and mother of three sons and two daughters.

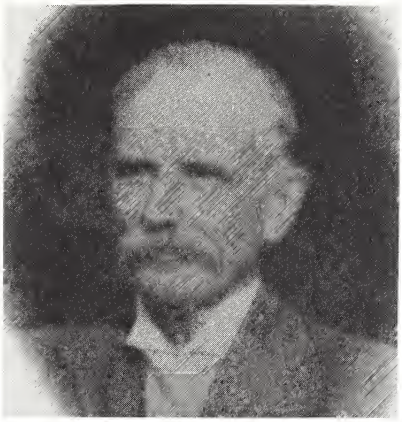
Rev. and Mrs. Harris moved to their home at Aarons Creek, Virginia, after his retirement. Here he continued to be active in the Lord's work, supplying and filling in whenever he could. He also taught a men's Bible class. Gardening was a hobby he enjoyed.

Mrs. Harris died November 12, 1963. Her funeral was held in Aarons Creek Baptist Church. She was buried in Virgilina Cemetery.

After Mrs. Harris's death, Rev. Harris visited among his children, Mrs. Lucille H. Lyon of Creedmore, North Carolina, Mrs. Samuel H. Lamb of Chesapeake, Virginia, Edwin Rowland Harris, Jr., of Raleigh,

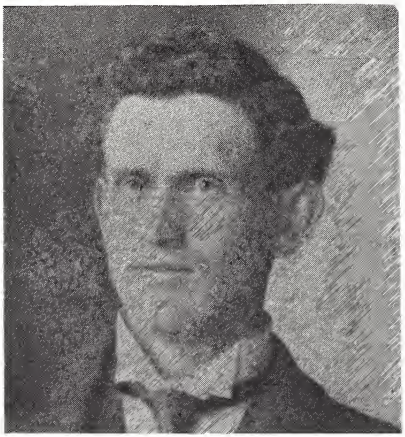
North Carolina, William Styron Harris of Portsmouth, Virginia, and Robert J. Harris, Walden, New York. As often as he could, he would return to his home at Aarons Creek.

Rev. Harris died December 10, 1969, seventeen days before his 96th birthday. His funeral was held at Aarons Creek Baptist Church and burial followed in the Virgilina Cemetery beside his wife. He left five children, ten grandchildren and ten great grandchildren to mourn his passing but at the same time to be thankful for this servant of God who had ministered to many flocks and who had held important positions in denominational work.



REV. LEROY N. CHAPPELL
8th Pastor

REV. EDWARD R. HARRIS, SR.
9th Pastor



REV. ADOLPHUS M. BURLESON
10th Pastor

REV. JOSEPH BRYAN JACKSON
11th Pastor

## REV. ADOLPHUS McKINNEY BURLESON (1908)

### Tenth Pastor

Our next pastor, Rev. Adolphus McKinney Burleson, came to us late in 1907 or early in 1908 and remained one year. It was most difficult to get any information about him for sometime. Finally a son, Elliott W. Burleson, was found to be in Eugene, Oregon. He has furnished the picture and also the facts about his father.

Adolphus McKinney Burleson was born in Bernardsville, North Carolina, on March 18, 1879. He attended public school then went to Wake Forest College for three and one-half years, 1903-1906. After leaving Wake Forest, he did missionary work in Montana for the Northern Baptist Convention. While in Montana he married Miss Martha Susan Watson, a member of his church near Three Forks and Bozeman. They were married in August, 1906, and immediately left for Boston, Mass., where Adolphus Burleson enrolled for some courses at the Newton Theological Seminary.

Upon leaving Boston, Rev. Burleson accepted a call to the Sylva First Baptist Church where he remained one year. His next pastorate was Hamlet Baptist Church in 1908. Here his son Elliott was born December 5, 1908.

Mr. J. B. Smith of the congregation remembers Rev. Burleson quite well as Rev. Burleson baptized him.

Rev. Burleson was active in the Pee Dee Association. He preached the associational sermon at Laurinburg in 1908. He was only 29 years old. The people of the church were very fond of the young couple.

Mrs. Burleson was active in the Woman's Missionary Society. Records show she served as president during the year 1908.

It appears that we were still paying on our church building in 1908 but increasing our gifts to missions.

About two years after leaving Hamlet, the family moved to Montana where Rev. Burleson resumed pastoral and missionary work. Shortly after going back to Montana, he had tuberculosis and also suffered a nervous breakdown. When he had to give up preaching, he did part time agricultural work, storekeeping and teaching school. A son, Glenn, was born during this time at Victor, Montana, in 1911, and a daughter, Frances, was born in Scio, Oregon, in 1914. The family returned to North Carolina for one year, 1916, then returned to Montana, where they lived until 1922 when they moved to San Jose, California. Here the family joined the First Baptist Church and came under the influence of the pastor, Dr. William Kenney Towner. The church prayed for Rev. Burleson's healing. His health improved, and

he became an associate pastor and was sent as a missionary to Nevada and Arizona. He was called home on account of the illness and death of Mrs. Burleson November 26, 1927. She was buried in the Santa Clara Protestant Cemetery near San Jose, California.

In all probability Rev. Burleson continued in the ministry in some capacity as he did not die until May 22, 1938, at the age of 59. He was buried beside his wife in San Jose, California.

At this time all three children are still living—Elliott in Eugene, Oregon, Frances in Glendale, California, and Glenn in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Rev. Burleson wrote poetry when he was at Wake Forest College. When Elliott Burleson was located, his wife sent a booklet entitled "Excerpts from Aunt Lillian's Scrapbook" in which five of Rev. Burleson's poems were found. Perhaps these lines of one poem will give us an insight of the man he was:

"Keep my lips from words of anger,
Keep my feet from evil ways:
Keep my hands from hasty actions,
Keep my heart pure all my days. . .
So when evening shadows gather,
And I talk with Thee at last,
May I say in truth, 'O Father,
Thine has been the day now past."

## REV. JOSEPH BRYAN JACKSON (1909-1912)

### Eleventh Pastor

Joseph Bryan Jackson was born March 12, 1871, in Craven County, North Carolina. Shortly thereafter the family moved to Pitt County, North Carolina. Here he attended public schools, later going to Wake Forest College where he obtained his A.B. degree in 1899. To further prepare himself for the ministry, he attended the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky.

Upon completion of his education, he was pastor of the Second Baptist Church of Goldsboro, North Carolina, and of the Falling Creek Baptist Church near Goldsboro from 1901-1904. The next two years, 1905-1906, he was at Ashpole Church in Robeson County, North Carolina. The year 1907 he was pastor of Fairmont Baptist Church.

The Hamlet Baptist Church of Hamlet extended Rev. Jackson a call. He accepted and was pastor from 1909 until sometime early in 1912.

Rev. Jackson was married but no knowledge of his wife is available other than she was president of the W.M.U. in 1911.

The three years he was with the Hamlet Church, the church grew spiritually, numerically and financially under the leadership of this quiet, unassuming man. It was said of him that he was "as gentle and tender as a woman, yet strong in his convictions and unfaltering in his determination to see the right prevail and the name of his Master honored and glorified." He was also active in associational work. Records show he gave a Home Mission report, preached the associational sermon and served as chairman of the program committee during his pastorate of the Hamlet Church.

From Hamlet Rev. Jackson went to Smithfield, North Carolina, and from there to the Ocean View Baptist Church in Norfolk, Virginia. In 1914 he accepted a call to the Prentis Place Baptist Church in Portsmouth, Virginia, where he served five years. He was pastor there at the time of his death, Thursday morning, November 13, 1919, at the age of 48. During these five years the church had grown and prospered under the providence of God, and the people had come to love him.

Rev. Jackson's funeral service was held Friday night, November 14, at the Prentis Place Baptist Church. Rev. R. B. Garrett, pastor of Court Street Baptist Church officiated, assisted by ten other pastors of Portsmouth and Norfolk, Virginia.

Since it had been one of Rev. Jackson's strong and burning desires and passion of his heart to build a new temple of God at Prentis Place, it was suggested at the funeral service that members of the church at Prentis Place would like to build a new church as a monument to their beloved pastor. This they did and named it "Jackson Memorial Church." When the church was relocated in 1967 in Chesapeake, Virginia, it retained his name.

Rev. Jackson's burial services were held in Goldsboro, North Carolina, Saturday afternoon, November 15, 1919, conducted by Rev. George T. Watkins, pastor of First Baptist Church of Goldsboro. He was survived by his wife, Mrs. Addie Jackson, and three children, Jesse B. Jackson, Sallie Jackson, and Joseph Jackson of Portsmouth, Virginia.

Facts were obtained from associational minutes and from Mrs. C. E. Tarkenton of Portsmouth, Virginia, who also supplied the picture of her grandfather.

## REV. ALBERT THOMAS HOWELL, SR. (1912-1916)

### Twelfth Pastor

There are at present members of the Hamlet Baptist Church who knew the next pastor, Rev. Albert Thomas Howell, Sr. He became our pastor on June 1, 1912, and remained until August 16, 1916.

Rev. Howell came from a long line of preachers. His ancestors fled their homeland because of religious persecution. One of his kinsmen, William Howell, had been burned at the stake for preaching.

Albert Thomas Howell, Sr., was born October 5, 1864, in Eure, North Carolina. He was the son of Albert Thomas and Annie Eure Howell. His father was killed in the Civil War prior to his birth. He attended the local public school, then enrolled at Wake Forest College where he was graduated with high honors in 1888.

Rev. Howell married Elizabeth Wescott Dosher of Southport, North Carolina, on November 16, 1892.

Rev. Howell held pastorates in Southport, Newton and Greensboro, North Carolina. In 1909-1911 records showed him to be in Murfreesboro, North Carolina; from June 1, 1912 to August 16, 1916, he was at Hamlet; and at Siler City, North Carolina, 1916; and Saluda, South Carolina, 1917-1918. Other pastorates were Charles County and West Point, Virginia, Union and Aiken, South Carolina. At one time he was a home missionary in the mountainous area of Virginia.

In 1912 Rev. Howell was elected a messenger to the Southern Baptist Convention and historian for the Pee Dee Association. He preached the associational sermon at Lilesville in 1913. Reports for 1914 showed Rev. Howell as a member of the Executive Committee of the Pee Dee Association. At Ellerbe in 1915 Rev. Howell gave the report on the "Biblical Recorder." Forty-one baptisms were reported this year (1914). This was the largest number of any previous year. He was also elected as a representative on the Home Mission Board.

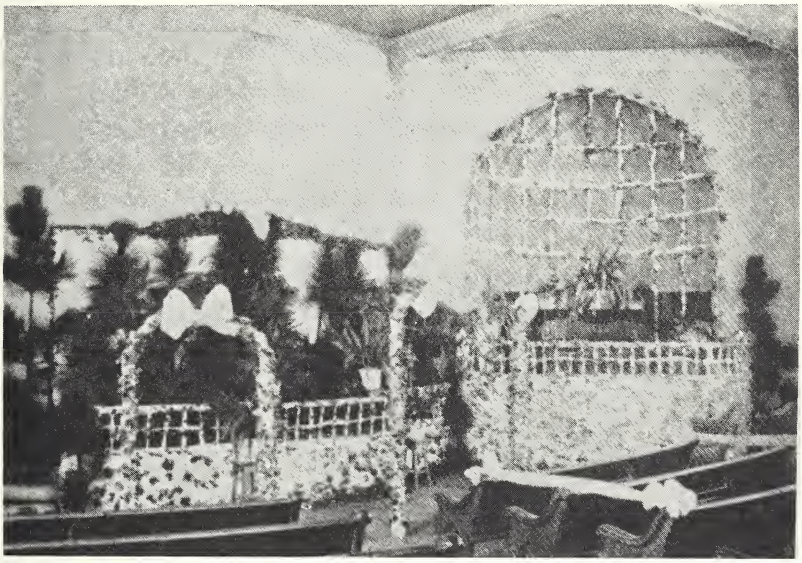
On December 21, 1915, Mr. E. P. Pearce and Miss Glennie Maske were married in The Hamlet Baptist Church, Hamlet, which was beautifully decorated as one can see from the picture. We are told that snow was on the ground and it was very cold. Agatha Gaddy (Mrs. H. E. Joyner was one of the attendants. Rev. Howell performed the ceremony.

Rev. Howell was not only a pastor but also an evangelist and author. The following is a list of some of his writings: "Dawn of a New Day," "Peter's Last Fishing Trip." "Jonah's Trip to Tarus," and "The Second Coming." All have a religious theme.

Rev. Howell died July 13, 1946, in Aiken, S. C. He was survived by four children: Annie Dosher who married Benjamin J. King of

Darlington, South Carolina; Julia Frances who married Carl E. Gaddy of Hamlet; A. T. Howell, Jr., of Aiken and Bluffton, South Carolina; and Wilbur Gay Howell of Aiken, South Carolina. Mr. and Mrs. King had published a newspaper in Aiken, South Carolina. A. T. Howell, Jr., is a newspaper editor, and Wilbur G. Howell is a newspaper business manager.

Mrs. Annie Dosher King was most helpful in giving the information on her father. We are also indebted to her for the picture of Rev. Howell.



The second Hamlet Baptist Church building interior decorated for the Pearce-Maske wedding.

## REV. JESSE MARTIN PAGE (1916-1921)

### Thirteenth Pastor

On November 1, 1916, Rev. Jesse Martin Page came to be the shepherd of the flock at the Hamlet Baptist Church. He was born in Stedman, Cumberland County, North Carolina, on February 22, 1877. He attended public schools, Wake Forest College and the Southern Baptist Seminary at Louisville, Kentucky. In 1898 he was ordained to the ministry.

He held many pastorates throughout the state of North Carolina, namely Stedman, Southport, Hope Mills, Clinton, Rose Hill, Troy, Hamlet, St. Pauls, and Badin.

The following article was published in the "Biblical Recorder" September 20, 1916:

"Rev. J. M. Page, pastor at Troy and moderator of the Montgomery Association has accepted the pastorate of the church at Hamlet and will begin work there November 1. Brother Page has spent three years at Troy, doing there an excellent work especially marked by the erection of an elegant and adequate house of worship which has been done on the pay-as-you-go plan—a plan which is to be heartily commended—so that his successor at Troy will not be confronted by an embarrasing indebtedness. On his new field at Hamlet, he will have opportunity to do a similar work which we do not doubt will be entirely successful, steps having already been taken looking to the erection of a first-class meeting house at Hamlet."

Rev. Page remained with the Hamlet Church from 1916 to 1921. These years included the period of World War I. The activity of the war days was reflected in the church records. There seemed to have been plenty of money at this time and goodly sums donated to the church. The church treasury showed an increase, surpassing records of prior years.

There were 139 males, 181 females, a total of 320 church members when Rev. Page came. When he left in 1921 the membership had grown to 508. In 1916 the pastor's salary was $1,080. In 1921 the salary was $2,400.

Rev. Page set about immediately to erect a new church building. Records in the Court House in Rockingham, North Carolina, show that O. T. Goodwin and wife Clara M., T. M. Rose and wife Mary B. sold to the trustees of Hamlet Baptist Church, R. E. Hinson, W. H. H. Bagwell, J. A. Williams, E. A. Harrill, and W. L. Criddlebaugh for $3,-200 the plot of land on which the present sanctuary stands. Indenture entered June 5, 1916, probated June 16, 1916, and recorded April 3,

1917. The actual building began in 1917 and was completed in 1919. The building consisted of seventeen class rooms and two auditoriums. The dedication service of the First Baptist Church of Hamlet (formerly Hamlet Baptist Church) was conducted by Dr. Walter N. Johnson on September 5, 1919.

The year 1917 was the best year financially that the church had had. A total of $5,000 was raised for the building fund. Total gifts amounted to $7,191.58. This was $3,000 more than any other church in the association had contributed. Rev. Page seems to have inspired the 343 members to really work, give, and pray that a new house of worship be built. Perhaps a contractor was in charge of the actual building, but Rev. Page was often seen wielding hammer and saw although he was handicapped by a deformed hand.

Rev. Page believed in the pay-as-you-go plan; so when funds were needed, he got out and solicited the needed amount.

Mr. Lane A. Patrick was treasurer of the building fund. He related an interesting story about Rev. Page and a device he used to collect funds. From "The History of First Baptist Church" printed in 1955 is found this account.

"He came to Mr. Patrick and asked for a large check in connection with building needs. When Mr. Patrick told his pastor that this would call for more money than there was in the account, Mr. Page asked him to go ahead and write the check and that he (Mr. Page) would see to it that things worked out all right. With this confident assurance on the pastor's part, Mr. Patrick said he would try it at least one time and see what happened. Mr. Page would then go to some of the members and tell them that funds in the building account at the bank were not enough to cover a check that had been written for building purposes, and ask for extra contributions to cover the deficit. Mr. Patrick said that following this first experience, he often would do the same thing again, and that there always was enough to cover the checks that were written."

Not only was the present sanctuary built during Mr. Page's pastorate, but also the parsonage which was beside the church. The organ was also installed during his pastorate. When Rev. Willis, the next pastor, came there was only a $1,500 debt on the church. $750 of this debt was a loan from the Home Mission Board on March 10, 1919. This loan was not repaid until November 3, 1959. Truly people gave generously and some sacrifically. There was an account of a young man of the church who earned $20 per week and gave an offering of $10 per week. His name was not given.

In 1913 the value of the church property was $6,000. The associational report of 1917 showed the church building valued at $12,-500, in 1918 the value had risen to $20,000, and in 1920 it was $50,000.

Very little is known of Mrs. Page. She was Miss Sarah Bryant before her marriage. She was born September 4, 1875, and died in Raleigh, North Carolina, February 10, 1967, at the age of 91. She was buried in Montlawn Cemetery, Raleigh, North Carolina.

After leaving Hamlet, Rev. Page went to St. Pauls, North Carolina, where he was instrumental in erecting a beautiful new church.

For several years Rev. Page was field representative for the United Dry Forces. For over 30 years he served as part-time representative of the "Biblical Recorder."

In 1927 Rev. Page became affiliated with the Baptist State Convention, assisting in establishing and building more than 100 churches throughout North Carolina.

Rev. Page was a member of the First Baptist Church of Raleigh and an active member of the Jones-Berean Bible Class. He was also a member of the Raleigh Ministerial Association. On account of ill health, he retired in 1940 but still did a limited amount of supply work. He died suddenly July 14, 1953. His funeral was held from the Pennington-Smith Funeral Home Chapel with Dr. Broadus Jones of First Baptist Church officiating, assisted by the Rev. W. M. Page of Fuquay Springs, North Carolina, and the Rev. D. S. Dempsey of Lowesville, Virginia. Burial followed in Montlawn Cemetery.

Rev. and Mrs. Page had a son, Jesse Martin Page, Jr., an architect residing in Raleigh, North Carolina, and three daughters, Mrs. Claude W. Jones (Lola Page), a trained nurse living in Raleigh; Mrs. W. C. Callaway (Eula Page), a teacher in Southern Pines, North Carolina; and Miss Leta V. Page, a teacher of Raleigh, North Carolina.

There are a goodly number of the church members who knew and loved the Page family.

The following article is from the "Biblical Recorder" Wednesday, February 19, 1919:

"From Hamlet. I have been so busy for a good, long time helping my people do things for the Lord that I have not had time to write the "Recorder" about it, but I think that it is due my people to let you know something about what they are doing.

We have been worshipping in the new Sunday School auditorium for some time, and expect to be in the main auditorium in a few days. Our heating plant was installed last week and tried out last Sunday, and as proof of its efficiency, I saw some of the sisters fanning.

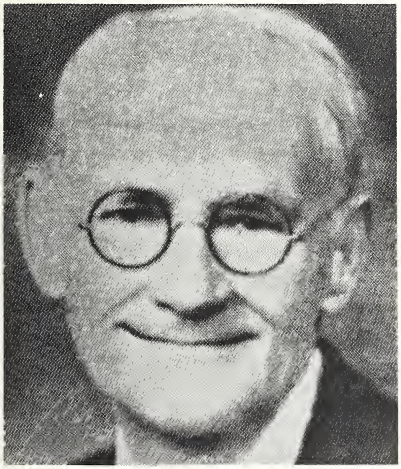
When you come to make out lists of good churches, you may put

Hamlet down right up near the top. We have no kickers and about 75 per cent actual pullers. Every member of my Board of Deacons stands for safe and sane progress and actually believes in the wisdom of making our theory of a converted membership a practice as well as a theory. Now, of course, many of you pastors who read this would be glad to swap deacons with me, but you need not apply, as I would not risk a change with any of you.

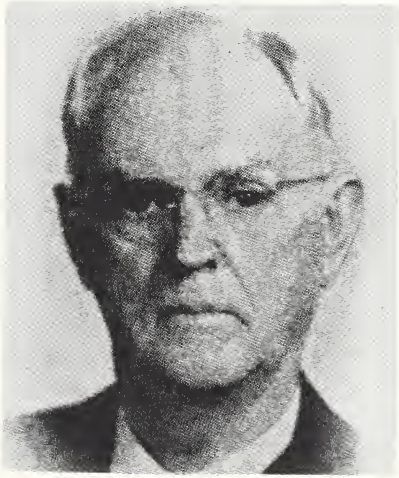
In such matters as poundings, increase in pastor's salaries, paying pastor's way to conventions, etc., you can put Hamlet on the head of the list.

Now, brethern, do not let your mouths water for my job, for I have no idea of moving any time soon." (Signed) J. M. Page

Pee Dee Associational Minutes, the "Biblical Recorder," and Miss Leta Page were sources of information. Picture was furnished by Mrs. Harold Brown.



REV. ALBERT T. HOWELL, SR.
12th Pastor



REV. JESSE MARTIN PAGE
13th Pastor

DR. JAMES BENNETT WILLIS (1922-1959)

Fourteenth Pastor

On December 4, 1882, Eli and Flora McColl Willis became the proud parents of twin boys, James Bennett and Hugh Allen. The family was living in McColl, South Carolina (Marlboro County). They had four daughters, Mary, Alice, Stella, and Lillian and another son, John Elliott. This was a happy Christian home where each shared the chores of the day and enjoyed the love and affection which abounded in the home.

The Willis children received their early schooling in a family private school, then in public school of McColl, South Carolina.

James Willis had dreams of college and becoming a preacher. He enrolled in Buie's Creek Academy where he came under the influence of some Godly professors. After leaving the Academy (which is now Campbell College), he entered Wake Forest College where he received an A.B. Degree in 1909, thence to Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky, for his Th.G. Degree in 1911.

Rev. Willis possesses a sense of humor and is a splendid story teller. One story he likes to tell is about the time he was home for summer vacation between college sessions when a Negro preacher near McColl, South Carolina, asked him to preach one Sunday morning. James Willis accepted the invitation. During the sermon, "Amens" were heard throughout the congregation. After the sermon the Negro preacher arose and told his members there was a line stretched across the church with clothes pins on it where the offering was to be placed. The response was good as only paper money could be hung up.

James Bennett Willis was ordained August, 1908, in McColl. His first pastorate was in Dunn, North Carolina, in 1908. Next he did supply work during the summer of 1910 at the First Baptist Church of Fayetteville, North Carolina. This is where he met Marie Thornton, whom he later married August 16, 1911.

James Bennett Willis and Marie Thornton were the first couple to be married in the new First Baptist Church of Fayetteville, North Carolina. Dr. Hall performed the ceremony. In August, 1936, they celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary. The townspeople and friends from near and far came to help the happy couple celebrate. They were the recipients of many lovely gifts of silver.

From 1911-1912 Rev. Willis preached one Sunday each month either morning or afternoon at Aberdeen, Flat Springs, Sandy Branch, Bear Creek, and Holly Springs. Jonesboro and Sanford Baptist Churches called him in 1912. He preached two Sundays a month in each church until 1918 when he accepted a call to Morehead City Baptist Church where he remained until he came to the First Baptist Church of Hamlet February 1, 1922. His early mode of travel was by horse and buggy. "Patsy" (the mare) was a dependable four-footed friend, ready at all times to go as directed by her master.

The church and in fact the whole community soon felt the quiet, humble and peaceful influence of this small statured man, full of wit, good humor and love of his fellowman, always with a twinkle in his blue eyes. The town really had a revival of brotherly love and Christian spirit. A man of conviction and courage, he demonstrated his love of God and man by his daily walk among people. It didn't take too long for the narrow bigotry among the different denominations to disappear, and replacing it a more cooperative spirit existed insomuch that all denominations began to work together in a spirit of brotherhood. The churches of the town, Pee Dee Association and the Baptist Convention of North Carolina, even the state of North Carolina have been blessed because of James Bennett Willis having lived these past fifty years in Hamlet.

The church had a debt of $1,500 when Rev. Willis became the pastor. Many times there were debts that went unpaid for a time, even the pastor's salary, but always having a competent Board of Deacons of able businessmen, plans were formulated from time to time that cleared the debts.

All organizations of the church showed marvelous growth. Rev. Willis was always well informed as to what was being done in each department. All the trusted and faithful servants cannot be named.

The church, the town, and all who knew Rev. Willis were saddened at the death of Mrs. Marie Willis on August 27, 1947. She had been a loving companion, mother, and helpmeet. She was held in highest esteem by all who knew her. For twenty-five years the church membership had appreciated the lovely organ music which was a part of the worship hour. She was laid to rest in Cross Creek Cemetery, Fayetteville, North Carolina, not far from the plot where Rev. Thomas Benjamin Newberry, the organizer and first pastor of the church, is buried.

The associational sermon was preached by Rev. Willis at Pleasant Grove, Anson County, in 1923 and at Gum Springs Church in 1935. He served as moderator of the Pee Dee Association from 1943-1952.

On November 25, 1951, Mrs. Margaret Ross Hudnell and Rev. J. B. Willis were married. Since then Rev. and Mrs. Willis have lived at 612 Rice Street. The church held a reception in their honor on December 13, 1951, 8:00 to 10:00 P.M. Mrs. Willis is a former teacher in the Hamlet school, Librarian of our public library for 18 years, and an active member of the Hamlet Woman's Club and the Episcopalian Church.

Important positions held by Dr. Willis include eight years on the General Board of North Carolina Baptist Convention, twenty years as a trustee of Wake Forest College, four years as a trustee of the Baptist Orphanage and president of the State Pastor's Conference.

As a civic leader Rev. Willis served for several years as a director of the Hamlet Building and Loan Association, Chairman of the Richmond County Welfare Board, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Hamlet Hospital, Chaplain of the Hamlet Hospital and a member of the North Carolina Merit System Council. On October 29, 1953, the Hamlet Lodge No. 532 A.F. and A.M. presented him a 25 year service pin, awarded by the Grand Lodge of Masons.

The apex of his career came on July 12, 1953, when his beloved Alma Mater, Wake Forest College, conferred on him the degree of Doctor of Divinity in recognition of his ability and leadership throughout the Southern Baptist Convention.

It is regrettable that Dr. Willis kept no records of his pastoral calls, funerals conducted and marriages performed. His pastoral calls would run into the thousands. When one was ill or in trouble, he never failed to call. His unusual capacity for sympathy carried him to those grief stricken by the loss of dear ones. With a gentle hand upon a shoulder, his words of comfort in a sweet voice somehow got through to grieving hearts and dazed minds the message of God's love for the departed and those left behind.

Hearts were saddened at the death of Miriam, his only child and "apple of his eye." She died at Hamlet Hospital July 22, 1968, after a very brief illness. She was buried beside her mother in Cross Creek Cemetery, Fayetteville, North Carolina.

Dr. Willis had many opportunities to go to larger churches with salaries far exceeding that which he was receiving as pastor of the First Baptist Church in Hamlet, but he chose to remain with the people he had grown to love. He always gave generously of himself and his money.

No one could have been prouder of the new pastorium than Dr. Willis. He realized he would never occupy it, but he wanted it ready for his successor as he had given notice early in the Fall of 1958 that he was retiring.

The climax of Dr. Willis's thirty-seven years was the dedication of the pastorium on the day of his retirement April 5, 1959. It was also "Jim Willis Day," a day on which the whole community paid tribute to a beloved pastor, preacher, confidant, friend, teacher and brother.

During the morning worship hour the following friends gave talks: Basil M. Watkins, a Durham attorney; Dr. A. C. Reid, faculty member of Wake Forest University; Claude Gaddy, J. P. Gibbons and Mayor Stewart Gordon.

A reception for Dr. Willis was held in the church recreation room from 2:00 to 5:00 P.M. Hundreds of his friends came to honor him and wish him many long and happy years of retirement. They were able to view an oil painting of Dr. Willis which had been given to the church. It now hangs in the T.E.L. classroom.

At 5:30 P.M. the new and lovely pastorium was dedicated. Dr. Willis led in the dedication.

At the evening worship service at 7:30 P.M., the Associational Missionary Rev. R. T. Willis, Jr., read the scripture. Then talks were given by Rev. O. W. McManus, Rev. Carl Lewis, Rev. H. W. Baucom, and Rev. E. I. Olive. Just before the close of the service, a love offering of $700 was presented to Dr. Willis.

Thus ended the last day of Dr. Willis's pastorate—a day of happy

memories which he has been allowed to cherish these many years as God has richly blessed him and continues to let him live among the people who love and esteem him.

His beloved church again honored him on May 25, 1969. The day was "Dr. J. B. Willis Day." Dr. and Mrs. Mark Lindsay were co-chairmen in charge of all arrangements. Professor Jasper L. Memory was the speaker at the morning service. At noon there was a church picnic on the lawn of the church. Then from 4:00 to 6:00 P.M. there was a reception in Fellowship Hall honoring Dr. Willis. Hundreds of friends from far and near came to pay their respects to this beloved man of God.

## BENJAMIN FAYETTE BROADWAY (1959-1970)

### Fifteenth Pastor

On August 9, 1915, in Sumter County, South Carolina, there was born to Mr. George Lafayette Broadway and wife Bertha Finch, a son destined to become a bearer of the "Good News" to the unsaved and a Shepherd of God's people in South Carolina and North Carolina. This son was named Benjamin Fayette but was called Ben.

Ben Broadway attended schools in Sumter County and was graduated from Sumter High School in 1933. From Sumter High School he enrolled at Furman University at Greenville, South Carolina. From there he went to the Southern Baptist Seminary where he received the B.A. and Th.M. degrees.

Rev. Broadway was ordained by the Pendleton Street Baptist Church, Greenville, South Carolina.

While at the seminary he had a student pastorate in Kentucky.

In 1943 Rev. Broadway was called as pastor of Bethel and Sardis Baptist Churches in Florence County, South Carolina. About this time he met Alice Mabel Lanier, a pretty and charming school teacher. She was the daughter of a Baptist minister. She received her education at Anderson College, Anderson, South Carolina. They were married June 29, 1944. Rev. Broadway became a Navy Chaplain and served for two years. Some of his time was spent in Hawaii where he was in contact with some of our Southern Baptist missionaries. After serving his country, he came back to South Carolina and was pastor of two rural churches. One of these was the historical Ebenezer Church.

While at the Ebenezer Church, their first child, Benjamin Jr., was born May 14, 1947, at Florence, South Carolina.

The next year, 1948, Rev. Broadway was called to Memorial Baptist Church in St. George, South Carolina, where he remained eleven years. While there a lovely sanctuary was erected. The church grew spiritually and numerically under his pastorate.

While pastor in St. George three children were born: John William on May 20, 1950, at Orangeburg, South Carolina; George Robert, January 3, 1953, at Orangeburg, South Carolina; and Alice Jane, December 29, 1954, at Walterboro, South Carolina.

On April 12, 1959, Rev. Broadway became pastor of the First Baptist Church of Hamlet, North Carolina. He and his family were given a warm welcome. It was a delight to have the children as a part of the church family. The family soon endeared themselves to the church members.

Rev. Broadway knew, when he accepted the call as pastor, that a new pastorium was awaiting him. He and Alice had already inspected it and found it to be most satisfactory. There was ample room for all the family.

Plans for an Educational Building had been formulated before Rev. Broadway arrived. Immediately he set about to become informed about the plans and then he, the Planning and Building Committees, the Deacons, and the membership determined to erect the Educational Building.

The pastorium was cleared of debt on October 30, 1959.

In January, 1960, the Colyar property on Hamlet Avenue and the Covar property on Wilmington Street were purchased, making way for the erection of the Educational Building. Architects were employed March, 1960, to draw up plans for the building. It was not until March 19, 1961, that the ground breaking took place. It was a long wait until May 5, 1962, when the building was dedicated "to the glory of God and to the teaching and training of those that enter therein."

In February, 1960, Rev. Broadway attended the School of Pastoral Care at Bowman-Gray School of Medicine at Winston-Salem for six weeks.

When the question of ABC stores arose, Rev. Broadway never feared to speak out against them. He never attempted to tell anyone how to vote but did not mind letting one know where he stood on the question.

The church participated in the "Forward Program" in 1961 and 1962 under Rev. Broadway's leadership. These programs created a

spiritual atmosphere and had many people taking part that otherwise would have been inactive. These programs proved to be a blessing to the church.

In September, 1960, Rev. Broadway carried his son Bob to the Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, for an examination. It was found that he had Muscular Dystrophy. This was heartbreaking news, but by faith the Broadways accepted the fact. Through the years they have borne up well as the members of the church and friends have upheld them in prayer.

At the Pee Dee Associational Meeting October 17 and 18, 1960, Rev. Broadway was elected a member of the General Board, Committee on Evangelism which office he held until 1963. (The association minutes did not list officers of Southwide and State Boards and Institutions after 1965.) At the same meeting he was appointed a member of the Association Evangelism Committee.

Through the years from 1961-1969 Rev. Broadway held many offices in the association namely as follows: Member of Program Committee 1961, Member of Calendar Committee 1962, Chairman of Calendar Committee 1963, Member of the Ordination Committee 1964, Associational Representative of Christian Education 1965, Member of Ordination Committee 1965, Member of Nominating Committee, 1965, Associational Representative of Baptist Hospital 1966-67, Member of Evangelism Committee 1966, Member of Ordination Committee 1966-67, Sunday School Young People's Group Leader 1967, Parliamentarian Associational Council, 1968, Chairman of Missions Committee 1968-69, Member of Nominating Committee 1968-69, was also Vice President of the General Board in 1965.

A year or two after Rev. Broadway became pastor, the custom of an annual church picnic was begun. Through the years since, the membership of the church gathers for this annual fellowship, usually soon after July 4th.

During his pastorate, some of the Ordinances of the Lord's Supper were observed by candlelight. These were most impressive.

The year 1964 was the Jubilee Year of the Southern Baptist Convention at Atlantic City, New Jersey. Rev. Broadway attended the Pastor's Conference and the Convention. Then in the company of Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Nash and Mrs. F. L. Honeycutt, he attended the New York World's Fair. Upon returning home, the First Baptist Church was celebrating the Jubilee Year and held a reception in honor of Rev. Broadway following the Sunday night worship service.

The Baptist World Alliance met in Miami in 1965. Rev. Broadway requested of the Deacons that Mrs. Broadway be allowed to go in his stead using the money in the budget allocated for such a meeting. The request was granted.

Ever eager for more knowledge Rev. Broadway attended the Pastors' School at Princeton Seminary from July 5-14, 1966.

In August, 1966, the Deacons voted to have a Pictorial Directory made of the church and its members. Pictures of almost all families were made. The directory was ready for distribution June, 1967.

Having four children, Rev. Broadway was interested in the youth of the church. He was always glad to have the Youth take part during Youth Week. He looked forward to having the different choirs perform.

Rev. Broadway was missionary minded and never failed to help promote the weeks of prayer, the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering and the Lottie Moon Offering. Our gifts to these offerings increased during the decade of the 60's.

Rev. Broadway had a deep sense of responsibility toward the Pee Dee Association. He held many offices during his eleven years at First Baptist Church. He was particularly pleased when Rev. Hoyle E. Langford became Associational Missionary on October 1, 1967. His close association with Rev. Langford likely influenced Rev. Broadway to leave the pastorate and become General Secretary of the Wilmington Association.

The senior citizens of the church were honored with a banquet on May 25, 1967. From that time Rev. Broadway felt there should be some organization for the senior citizens. Finally on April 8, 1969, a committee was appointed to formulate plans for an organization. All persons in the church over 60 years of age were invited to meet in the Omega House at 10:00 A.M. April 15. A goodly number attended the meeting and organized the "J.O.Y. Club—Just Older Youths." The club is still very active.

"Dr. J. B. Willis Day" was May 25, 1969. Dr. Willis was honored at the morning worship hour followed by a church picnic on the church lawn at noon. A reception in Fellowship Hall from 4-6 P.M. afforded his many friends an opportunity to show their love and esteem for him. Rev. Broadway always showed his love, respect and concern for Dr. Willis.

On June 29, 1969, the church honored Rev. and Mrs. Broadway on their silver wedding anniversary. The church presented them a lovely silver tray. Many church members gave money which was pinned to a tree. Mrs. Broadway had the pleasure of picking money from the tree. It was a most happy occasion.

J. O. Y. RHYTHM BAND (Just Older Youths) — Seated — Mrs. I. L. Freeman, Mrs. C. A. Whitlock. 1st Row — J. D. Nash, Mrs. J. D. Nash, Mrs. T. A. Higgins, Mrs. Charles Ash, Sr., Mrs. H. E. Joyner, W. N. Cosby. 2nd Row — Miss Ercie Stroup, Mrs. F. E. Roofe, Sr., Mrs. P. R. Uzzell (Director), Miss Lottie Stroup. Absent — Mrs. J. M. Dean, Mrs. Roy Muse and Mrs. A. T. Worrell.

Through Mr. C. W. Barnes's interpretation to the deaf at the preaching service on Sunday mornings, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Gobble, Mr. and Mrs. Gaither Gobble, and Mrs. Lena Ketner joined the church. Those requiring baptism were baptized on Sunday night June 21, 1970.

Because a pastor's family is important to him and the church, let's look more closely at the Broadways. Mrs. Broadway was truly a help meet, a devoted mother, a Bible student and always interested in His kingdom's work. She served her church as a Sunday School teacher, Training Union Group Leader, W.M.U. group leader, and Vice President. She served the association as Mission Study Chairman 1963-65.

Ben, Jr., finished Hamlet High School from which he went to Mars Hill College where he was graduated in 1969. While a student there he met Annette Swafford, and they were married February 15, 1968. A son, David, was born before Annette was graduated, but she later was graduated and became a school teacher. Ben, Jr., served his country for two years. Then he and his family, which now included a daughter, came to live in Hamlet. Ben, Jr., worked for the Seaboard Coast Line Railroad and Annette taught school. Ben, Jr., later began teaching at Richmond Senior High School.

Bill finished Hamlet High School then enrolled at Furman where he has received some outstanding honors. For one semester he went to England to study. He was privileged to travel throughout several countries in Europe at this time. He has graciously shared his slides and travel memories with various groups of our church.

Jane was in Junior High when the family moved. She is a most attractive and pretty young lady now.

Bob is confined to a wheel chair but is cheerful and always glad to see old friends. He has a keen interest in T.V. and a remarkable knowledge of current world events.

On Mother's Day, May 10, 1970, those present for the morning worship were shocked beyond belief when Rev. Broadway read his resignation to become effective June 28, 1970. He had accepted a call as General Secretary of the Wilmington Baptist Association. The church accepted his resignation with regret.

On June 28, 1970, the church honored the Broadways with a reception which was shared with the Cabells as they were leaving also. It was sad to say goodbye to people so loved but believing God was leading them, all one could do was to wish them happiness and success.

REV. BENJAMIN F. BROADWAY
15th Pastor

REV. BILLY G. RIVERS
16th Pastor

## REV. BILLY G. RIVERS (1970-1972)

### Sixteenth Pastor

The present pastor Rev. Billy G. Rivers was no stranger when he accepted the call as pastor October 16, 1970. He had served as Associate Pastor from August 15, 1953, to October, 1955, and his wife, Joyce, had been church secretary from August, 1953, to August 31, 1955. He had held revivals at the First Baptist, Calvary and second Baptist Churches since leaving.

Rev. Rivers is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Legette Rivers of Chesterfield, South Carolina. He was born May 19, 1929, in the Wadesboro Hospital, Wadesboro, North Carolina. He grew up in Chesterfield and finished high school there in 1946. He attended Wingate Junior College 1946-1948, then enrolled at Furman University from which he graduated in 1950. He was ordained in 1947. He married Joyce Hancock of Ruby, South Carolina, September 18, 1948. He attended Southern Baptist Seminary where he received a B.D. degree in 1953.

Shortly after being graduated from the seminary, he accepted a call to the First Baptist Church, Hamlet, North Carolina, as associate to Dr. J. B. Willis. Rev. Rivers's service as associate pastor is told under the heading "Associate Pastors."

Former pastorates while in college and seminary include Mt. Olivet Baptist Church, a mission of First Baptist Church, Brodhead, Kentucky; Union Band Baptist Church, Stiles, Kentucky.

In September, 1955, Rev. Rivers became pastor of Pee Dee Baptist Church, Rockingham, North Carolina. He remained there until 1958 when he accepted a call to Lower Creek Baptist Church, Lenoir, North Carolina, where he remained for 12½ years.

Rev. Rivers has served associations in various capacities. He has been a member of the North Carolina Baptist State Convention General Board serving on Training, Executive, and Church Programs Committees. He was a teacher of seminary extension courses for 5 years, Superintendent of Sunday School Enlargement for Caldwell Association for 10 years, Region 7 Superintendent of Sunday School for the N. C. Baptist State Convention for 12 years, Chairman of Evangelism for Caldwell Association, Moderator of Caldwell Baptist Association, Summer instructor for Sunday School Week at the Baptist Assembly, Caswell, for 12 years. He has served on the Board of Associates of Gardner Webb College since Feb. 1, 1971.

Rev. Rivers has been honored by having been invited to seven Presidential Prayer Breakfasts in Washington, D. C. Again in 1967 he was the only North Carolinian invited to attend the Alaska Centennial Christian Leadership Conference. The invitation was extended by Gov. Walter Hickel.

In January, 1969 Rev. Rivers toured the Holy Land and Europe.

The First Baptist Church of Hamlet extended Rev. Rivers a call to be our pastor. He accepted the call and the challenge and began his pastorate October 16, 1970. The pastorium had been made ready for Rev. Rivers, his wife Joyce, and children—Bill, Joy, Sammy, and Tim. The membership received them warmly. It was delighted to have children in the pastor's family.

Mrs. Rivers is a young, attractive and energetic person with a pleasing personality. She is a busy mother, homemaker and a real helpmeet to her husband. She finds time to work in Sunday School, the W. M. U. and Sunday Night Activities. She also visits with the pastor on many occasions. On the Baptist Program she is well informed as to what is taking place in local, association, state and convention areas. We are happy to have her in our midst.

As the year 1972 comes to a close, we are very fortunate to have Rev. Rivers still the shepherd of First Baptist Church of Hamlet.

PASTOR'S FAMILY — (Left to Right) — Joy, Tim, Sammy, Mrs. Rivers, Rev. Rivers. (Bill, the oldest son, is away in college.)

## ASSOCIATE PASTORS

### RALPH W. HARRELL

Our first Associate Pastor, Ralph Webster Harrell, was born August 8, 1929, at Edenton, North Carolina, in Chowan County. He was the eleventh of twelve children. He was Salutatorian of his class at Chowan High School.

Ralph was converted at the age of thirteen. He began working in Vacation Bible School when he was sixteen and has continued to do so through the years.

Ralph was graduated from Wake Forest College in 1951 with a B.A. degree. While in college, he was the President of the Religious Education Club. He was also a member of the Baptist Student Union and Cullom Ministerial Conference.

During a Revival in First Baptist Church of Hamlet in the Spring of 1951, Mr. Harrell led the singing. The committee seeking an Associate Pastor was so pleased with this young man that he was offered the job. Very soon after graduation, he became Associate to Dr. Willis and Minister of Religious Education on June 10, 1951.

Mr. Harrell was a hard worker. He worked in many departments and with members of all ages. His first year here he was choir director. The next year he served as Sunday School Superintendent. There was a Sunday School enrollment of 773 with an average attendance of 460 and a Training Union enrollment of 170 with a weekly average of 97.

While here Ralph married Rosalind Knott of Oxford, North Carolina, on July 27, 1952. The next year Stephen Harrell was born on September 2, 1953.

Having felt called to go to the mission field, Ralph and family left Hamlet shortly after Stephen was born to enroll at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary for further study. He was graduated from the seminary in 1957 with a B.D. degree. While at the seminary he was pastor of New Liberty Baptist Church of Henryville, Indiana, 1953-1954. From 1954 to 1958 he was pastor of Clifton Heights Baptist Church of Louisville, Kentucky.

The Harrells were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board June 28, 1958, to serve in East Africa. The following are the positions, places of residence and length of service:

Director of Adult Education and Literacy Center in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, 1958-1961.

Mission Treasurer at Nairobi and Limuru, Kenya, 1962-1970.

Director of Baptist Assembly, Limuru, Kenya, 1964-1970.

Director Baptist Language School, Limuru, Kenya, 1968-1970.

Director of Station Evangelism, Limuru, Kenya, 1964-1970.

Director Editorial Department of Publications House, Nairobi, Kenya, 1970-1971.

The Harrells visit our church when on furlough and bring us up to date on their work. It is always a pleasure to have them. They visited us on November 21, 1971, "Ralph Harrell Day" and again June 18, 1972. They were honored with a reception following the evening worship hour. They have returned to Nairobi, Kenya, to direct the work of the Editorial Department.

Stephen is a student at Wake Forest University. He must have had mixed emotions as his family bade him farewell to return to their home in Africa, but being the son of a missionary, he will find the strength and courage to face each new day.

REV. RALPH W. HARRELL
Associate Pastor

REV. BILLY G. RIVERS
Associate Pastor

## REV. BILLY G. RIVERS

Associate Pastor

Rev. Rivers came to First Baptist Church of Hamlet soon after he was graduated from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1953 with a B.D. degree to become our second Associate Pastor to Dr. Willis. He was also Minister of Religious Education. He assumed his duties on August 15, 1953.

Additional comments are found under the section on "Pastors."

Rev. Rivers has been affectionately known and called "Billy" all of his life.

When Billy took up his duties, our Sunday School had been making steady gains since 1945. In 1953 the Sunday School enrollment was 979 with an average attendance of 526. In 1955 the enrollment of 989 was the highest of all times with an average attendance of 550. The Training Union enrollment was 221 in 1953 and 251 in 1955. The Training Union reached its highest enrollment of 335 in 1956. From these figures it is evident that our Minister of Education was not idle. He had a good corps of workers and his wife, Joyce, was the church secretary who always had facts and figures at hand.

Billy preached on Sunday nights and also preached on Sunday mornings when Dr. Willis was away. The congregation grew in numbers at the Sunday night worship hour. Our resident church membership was 819 in 1953, 1152 in 1954 and 1188 in 1955 which was the largest number in our history. Dr. Willis and Billy made a good team. Their preaching, praying and working resulted in 116 baptisms for the years 1953, 1954 and 1955.

It was with regrets that the church accepted Billy's resignation. The Riverses left October 16, 1955, to go to Pee Dee Baptist Church, Rockingham, North Carolina, where they served for three years. In 1958 Lower Creek Baptist Church of Lenoir, North Carolina, extended a call to Billy. He accepted the call and served the church as Pastor for 12½ years. In 1970 our Pulpit Committee recommended that our church extend a call to Billy. Such a call was extended and Billy, Joyce, and the four children — Bill, Sammy, Joy and Timothy moved into the pastorium October 16, 1970. Since this date Billy has been Pastor of the First Baptist Church of Hamlet, North Carolina.

## STANLEY POWHATAN CABELL

On January 22, 1967, a committee, composed of T. E. Smart, Dr. H. O. Queen, Dr. W. M. Pearce, W. C. Boney, Jr., and Mrs. C. S. Monteith, was appointed to find an Assistant to the Pastor. After much searching and interviews this committee recommended to the church that Stanley P. Cabell be called as Assistant to the Pastor. The recommendation was voted on and Stanley Cabell was extended a call on February 11, 1968. As Stan was still a student at Southeastern Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, North Carolina, he accepted the call on a part-time basis until his graduation in May. He began his work on February 24, 1968. On February 25 there was a church-wide reception in his honor following the evening worship hour.

Stanley P. Cabell was born in Newsomes, Virginia, April 21, 1941, the son of Benjamin W. and Ellen H. Cabell.

Stan was graduated from the Southhampton High School in 1959 where he had been interested in sports and Scouting. In September, 1959, he enrolled at Ferrum College at Ferrum, Virginia. In 1961 he transferred to Campbell College at Buies Creek, North Carolina, where has was graduated in 1964. While at Ferrum College he answered the call to Christian service.

In order to prepare himself for the ministry, he enrolled at Southeastern Theological Seminary, Wake Forest, North Carolina in 1964 and was graduated on May 31, 1968 with the Bachelor of Divinity degree.

Stan assumed his full-time responsibilities upon his graduation. He worked with all groups in the church but had an especial appeal to the youth as he was interested in Scouting, camping, Indian archaeology, music, and magic.

There was a very active group of Boy Scouts in the church while Stan was here. They acquired a bus and were able to take trips of interest and camping outings.

On June 21, 1969, Stan and Cynthia Cook were married in our church in a beautiful ceremony with many church members and others present.

Stan was kept busy with the publication of "The Voice," supervision of Vacation Bible School, working with youth groups, enrolling and accompanying groups to summer assemblies, encampments and retreats.

It was a shock to the congregation on June 14, 1970, when Stan read his resignation at the morning service. It was accepted with regrets. The Cabells and the Broadways were honored with a church-wide reception on June 28.

The Cabells left Hamlet to go to the Macedonia Baptist Church, Fayetteville, North Carolina.

## JAMES SILAS RITTER, JR.

Our present Assistant Pastor and Minister to Youth is affectionately called "Jimmy." He is really and truly one of us. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. James Silas Ritter, Sr., who have been members of our congregation and served in many capacities through the years. Jimmy grew up in Hamlet and our church. He was graduated from Hamlet High School in 1962.

In 1967 Jimmy received the B.A. degree from Elon College. While in college he worked with the Y.M.C.A. in Burlington, North Carolina, for three years. Here he worked with young people in summer camp and also served as instructor in the Y.M.C.A. when needed.

Jimmy and Martha McLean of Hamlet were married while they were in college. They were in charge of a youth group in their church until graduation in 1967.

Upon graduation Jimmy accepted a teaching and coaching position in the school at Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina. He coached varsity basketball and baseball. He also assisted with the music for the youth of the church and taught a men's Sunday School class.

In 1969 Jimmy and his family moved to Charlotte where he was employed as a commercial adjustor for Nationwide Insurance Company. Again he worked as coach for the youth basketball team in his church.

Jimmy felt that his life would have more meaning if he were able to work with youth through the church. It was fortunate that we were seeking a Minister of Youth and an Assistant Pastor when this decision was made. Somehow he and the committee got together for an interview. Afterwards the committee recommended that the church extend a call to Jimmy. The church voted in favor of the recommendation on May 16, 1970, and he accepted the call and reported for duty the next day.

The youth of our church are so very fortunate to have Jimmy as their Director. He has time for games, retreats, camping and sports. Since the church has obtained a bus, he and the youth have made many interesting trips. He has organized two Royal Ambassador groups in the past year.

All of Jimmy's time is not taken with the youth, for he finds time to preach, to work with W.M.U., Sunday School and Church Training. The Senior Citizens of the church claim some of his time and enjoy having him in their midst.

Jimmy was ordained to the Gospel Ministry on Sunday night December 5, 1971.

REV. STANLEY P. CABELL
Associate Pastor

REV. JAMES SILAS RITTER, JR.
Associate Pastor

## INTERIM PASTOR

### DR. JOHN T. BUNN

The First Baptist Church of Hamlet graciously received Dr. John T. Bunn on July 2, 1970, as Interim Pastor.

Dr. Bunn was born February 10, 1927, in Mount Gilead, North Carolina. He is the son of Dr. and Mrs. John H. Bunn. His father is now a retired Baptist minister. Dr. Bunn is married to the former Miss Lois I. Webb of Morehead City, North Carolina. They are the proud parents of three sons.

Dr. Bunn has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Wake Forest University and a Bachelor of Divinity and Doctor of Theology from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky. His field is Old Testament, but he specializes in Biblical Archaelogy. He has participated in two Archaelogical Excavations. One in Jordan in 1956 and the other in Israel in 1965.

Dr. Bunn has had experience in administrative positions as Departmental Chairman of Campbell College in 1961. He was Assistant to the President of Campbell College in Foundation Work from 1963 to 1965. In 1966 he served as Assistant Educational Director for Mediterranean Studies.

Dr. Bunn served as Interim Pastor until Rev. Billy Rivers came on October 16, 1970.

## EDUCATIONAL DIRECTORS
## AND
## MINISTERS OF MUSIC

### MISS PEGGY GREENE (Summer of 1947)

Miss Peggy Greene of Florence, South Carolina, served as Minister of Music during the summer months of 1947. She was a very attractive young lady and gifted with many talents. After leaving us, she and Rev. W. Bryant Hicks of Flornce were married. They then enrolled at Southern Baptist Seminary. After graduation they were assigned to a foreign mission field.

### MISS HELEN JONES (1947-1951)

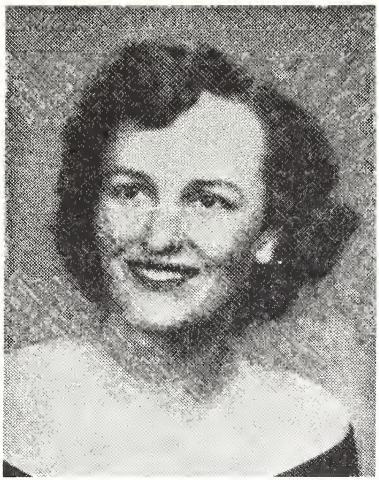
Miss Helen Jones of Asheville, North Carolina, was our first full-time Educational Director. Miss Jones was graduated from Wake Forest College in 1947. The summer after graduation she was employed as Youth Director of the First Baptist Church of Asheville. She joined the staff of the First Baptist Church of Hamlet on September 1, 1947. Miss Jones possessed a happy disposition and tireless energy. She was always eager to serve and performed varied duties in the different church organizations at the same time doing an excellent job as Educational Director. She remained with us until April 1, 1951, when she married Dr. Ralph Gandy of Rockingham. She had made many friends among the church members who regretted to see her leave.

### RALPH WEBSTER HARRELL (1951-1953)

Our next Educational Director (Minister of Religious Education), Ralph Webster Harrell, was also Associate Pastor to Rev. J. B. Willis. He was with us from June 10, 1951, to August 15, 1953. More facts concerning Rev. Harrell will be found under the topic of "Associate Pastors."

### BILLY G. RIVERS (1953-1955)

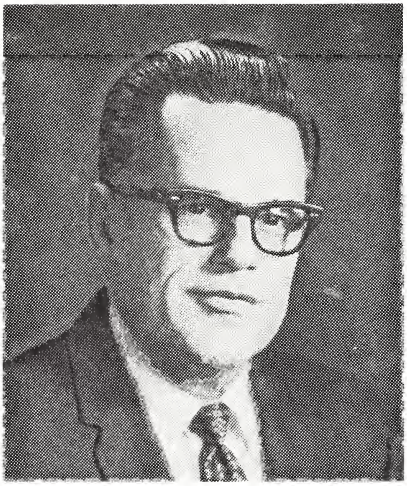
Rev. Billy G. Rivers was our next Associate Pastor. He also served as Minister of Religious Education from August 15, 1953, to October 16, 1955. See "Associate Pastors."



MISS HELEN JONES

REV. RALPH W. HARRELL

REV. BILLY G. RIVERS



DON LEROY HILL

## DON LEROY HILL (1956)

Don LeRoy Hill, Jr., came January 15, 1956, as Minister of Music and Minister of Education. He was born in Greenville, South Carolina, on April 1, 1911, the son of Rev. D. L. Hill and Frances Askins Hill. He was a graduate of Antioch High School, Darlington County, South Carolina, in 1930. He attended Furman University 1930-1931.

Mr. Hill was a very active member of the First Baptist Church in Hartsville, South Carolina, for 19 years (from 1932-1951). While in Hartsville he was employed by Sonoco Products Company and later by the U.S. Post Office. He also served in the U.S. Army from 1942-46. When he was called to full-time Christian service, he attended Southwestern Baptist Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, from 1951 to 1954 from which he graduated with a Bachelor of Sacred Music.

The First Baptist Church of Lancaster, South Carolina, called him as Minister of Music and Education June 1, 1954, where he remained until he was called by the First Baptist Church of Hamlet.

Mr. Hill married Loree Mosely of Columbia, South Carolina, on March 21, 1943. They had a son, Lewis LeRoy Hill, when they lived in Hamlet.

Mr. Hill was very talented. He played the piano and organ. Having majored in voice (baritone) at the Seminary, he was an asset to the choir and a good choir director. Since the Associational Minutes did not carry a report of Music Departments until 1958, it is not known how many choirs we had at this time or the number enrolled.

The Hills left to go to the Florida Convention where he was to begin work January 1, 1957. A reception was given in their honor on December 30, 1956, at the close of the evening worship hour.

## DONALD E. NEAL (1957-1958)

Mr. Donald E. Neal came to the First Baptist Church of Hamlet on February 1, 1957, as Minister of Music and Education. He came to us from the Diamond Hill Baptist Church of Statesville, North Carolina.

Mr. Neal was born in Rock Hill, South Carolina, on August 26, 1932, the son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Y. Neal. He was graduated in 1950 from the public schools of Rock Hill. He attended Mars Hill College from 1950 to 1952. He then enrolled at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary in 1952 and was graduated in 1954 with a Bachelors Degree in Religious Education

Mr. Neal's musical training included band, voice, piano, theory, and conducting.

He was married to Iris "Deanie" McLain of Bennettsville. While here they had no children but after leaving, they adopted three children.

From available records it seems there were five organized choirs with an enrollment of 115 and average attendance of 110. The Sunday School enrollment was 915 with average attendance of 481. The Training Union enrollment was 273 with average attendance of 140. According to these figuresMr. Neal did a splendid work in our Music and Educational Departments.

Mrs. Neal was an accomplished musician also. She was organist from December, 1957, until they left in May, 1958.

This young couple endeared themselves to the church family. Our best wishes were extended to them as they moved on in the Kingdom's work.

Since leaving here, Mr. Neal has held many notable positions in several churches, but his most outstanding work now is in counseling and heading the "Good News Singers" of Fayetteville, Inc., which includes 350 teenages from Junior and Senior High School in Cumberland County, North Carolina. He has taken them on tour of the eastern U.S., Canada and Europe.

## MRS. BARBARA BAKER HANSEN (1958-1959)

Mrs. Hansen became our Educational Director on July 16, 1958. She was graduated from Plant High School, Tampa, Florida. She attended Florida State College for Women in Tallahassee, Florida, for a time and is a graduate of Tampa Business College, Tampa, Florida.

In 1945 Barbara married Mr. H. E. Hansen, an electrician of the S.C.L.R.R. Company. They are the parents of two children. A daughter, Eileen, a graduate of the University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida, now teaches in Terry Sanford High School, Fayetteville, North Carolina. Their son, Scott, is a graduate of North Carolina State University at Raleigh, North Carolina. He is presently employed by the Federal Government in Research Program at N. C. State. He is married to Sandra Campbell, a teacher in Sanford, North Carolina.

While Mrs. Hansen was Educational Director, the Sunday School had an enrollment of 852 with average attendance of 496. The Training Union enrollment was 249 with an average attendance of 143. With this large number in Bible study, it was no little job to see that all places of responsibility were filled.

Mrs. Hansen served very efficiently during Dr. Willis's last months as pastor and the first few months of Rev. Broadway's pastorate. She served until September 30, 1959.

## MISS ANNA RIVERS

Miss Rivers was born in Columbia, South Carolina, on August 7, 1933. Her parents are Mr. and Mrs. Guy Rivers. Her father is a retired Seaborard Agent and lives in Taylors, South Carolina.

Anna has one sister who is presently stationed with her husband in Hawaii with the Naval Air Force.

Miss Rivers attended Howard College, now Sanford University, in Birmingham, Alabama, from which she was graduated in 1955 with an A.B. degree. She then attended Southwestern Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, and was graduated with a Minister of Religious Education degree in 1957. She has served in churches in Texas, North Carolina, and Virginia since 1957.

Miss Rivers became Minister of Religious Education at First Baptist Church, Hamlet, North Carolina, on January 4, 1960, under Rev. Broadway's pastorate. She found many duties awaiting her as we had a Sunday School enrollment of 868 with an average attendance of 415 and a Training Union enrollment of 302 with weekly attendance of 142.

Miss Rivers possessed a happy disposition and was always most helpful. Her responsibilities kept her quite busy but never too busy to have fun. She enjoyed her work especially with the young people.

Miss Rivers left us on December 31, 1962, after having served us very efficiently for three years.

At present she is Minister of Religious Education at the Second Baptist Church, Richmond, Virginia.

## E. BRUCE SLOOP

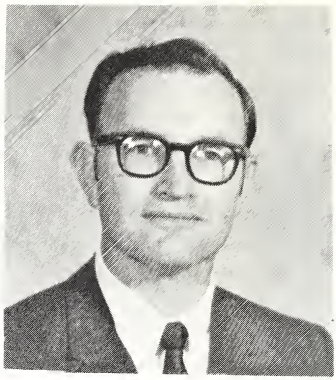
### Minister of Music (1960-1964)

E. Bruce Sloop was Minister of Music from March, 1960, until May 31, 1964. Mr. Sloop came to Hamlet from the First Baptist Church of Goldsboro, N. C. where he served as Minister of Music.

While here his work with the various choirs was outstanding. In fact the highest choir enrollment was reached while he was Minister of Music.

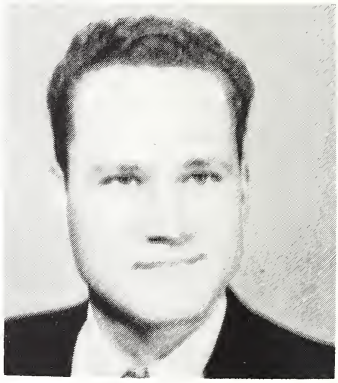
He was Director of Graded Choirs in the Pee Dee Association 1960-61.

DONALD E. NEAL



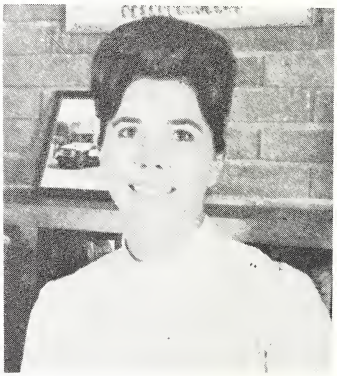
JOHN R. PROTHRO

MRS. BARBARA B. HANSEN



LAWRENCE SKINNER

MISS ANNA RIVERS



MRS. C. R. HAYES

## JOHN R. PROTHRO (1963-1966)

John R. Prothro was born in Shreveport, Louisiana, on April 30, 1933. He made a profession of faith when he was eight years of age. He lived in Shreveport until he enrolled at Louisiana Tech in Ruston, Louisiana. He was graduated from Tech with a B.S. degree in Petroleum Engineering in 1956.

The year of 1957 he was in the U.S. Army. Upon discharge from the Army, he worked in the petroleum industry until 1960.

A call to Christian service caused him to enroll at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, from which he was graduated in May, 1963.

His first work after graduation was with the First Baptist Church, Hamlet. He began as Minister of Education July 1, 1963 while Rev. Broadway was pastor.

Mr. Prothro had married Martha Lee Dunnahoe on May 18, 1956. They had two sons, Stephen and David.

Martha was a sweet, capable and energetic person, always willing to participate where ever she was needed. She served as Training Union Director in 1964. She also taught in the public schools here.

There were 833 enrolled in Sunday School and 250 in Training Union when Mr. Prothro arrived with a Sunday School average of 452 and a Training Union average of 146. There were many responsibilities to all groups but Mr. Prothro seems to have assumed them well.

While employed here, Mr. Prothro returned to his home church in Louisiana to be ordained to the Ministry of the Gospel.

Rev. Prothro's resignation was accepted with regrets. A reception was given in honor of th Prothros on August 14, 1966, after the evening worship hour.

Upon leaving Hamlet, Mr. Prothro was enrolled at Southern Baptist Seminary in September, 1966. He worked as Minister of Education at the First Baptist Church, Vicksburg, Mississippi, from 1967 until May of 1972 when he became Minister of Education and Youth at Broadway Baptist Church, Memphis, Tennessee.

## LAWRENCE SKINNER

### Minister of Music (1964-1965)

On May 6, 1964, the church was fortunate to secure the service of Mr. Lawrence Skinner as Adult Choir Director. He was an Associate Professor of Music at St. Andrews College, Laurinburg, North Carolina.

Mr. Skinner was born in Dayton, Ohio, but grew up in Florida and Georgia. He attended public schools in Atlanta. Upon graduation from high school, he enrolled at Converse College for two years. He was then drafted into the Navy in 1943 and served overseas as a Navy Musician. After being discharged from the Navy, he attended Ohio State University where he received the B.M. degree in Church Music, the B.S. in Education and the M.A. degree in Vocal Pedagogy.

In 1954 Mr. Skinner taught at Flora McDonald College at Red Springs, North Carolina, for six years. The years 1960-1961 were spent doing post-graduate work at Union Theological Seminary in New York City. He then came to St. Andrews College, Laurinburg, North Carolina, and also served as our Adult Choir Director until August 8, 1965. While here he attended Music Week at Ridgecrest in 1964 and reports that he has been each summer since.

Mr. Skinner was a most capable director and well liked. We regretted to see him leave St. Andrews to go to Montreat-Anderson College where he worked for six years. At present he is back in church music at the Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church in Asheville, North Carolina. He, his wife, daughter Nancy (8½ years) and his 83 year old mother make their home in Montreat, North Carolina. Mrs. Skinner teaches art at Montreat-Anderson College at Montreat.

## MRS. C. R. HAYES

### Music Director and Organist

Martha Sue Pond, the daughter of Elizabeth Woodall Cook, was born in Hamlet on July 15, 1935. She attended the Hamlet schools and graduated from Hamlet High School. She then enrolled at East Carolina University at Greenville, North Carolina, where she was a music major studying voice, piano, and organ. She was graduated in 1957.

After graduation Martha Sue taught Public School music and piano in the Red Springs, North Carolina schools.

On June 28, 1959 Martha Sue was married to Clifton Rudolph Hayes. Since their marriage, they have made their home in Laurinburg, North Carolina. They have two lovely daughters, Carol and Anna.

Since 1966 Martha Sue has been Organist and Choir Director of First Baptist Church. She has performed her duties well and has lead our choirs in the performance of very lovely and inspirational music especially at Easter and Christmas.

Our congregation is proud to have this young lady (one who grew up in our church) as our Music Director and Organist.

## ORGANIZATIONS OF THE CHURCH

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

The first record of any Sunday School in Hamlet dates back to 1877 when Mr. John Shortridge organized a Union Sunday School which met in a small house which stood where the building is that formerly housed Belks Department Store.

In 1878 Rev T. B. Newberry came to Hamlet and held a preaching service. He found a Union Sunday School of 90 Members. In September, 1878, he and Rev. John Monroe visited Hamlet and organized the Hamlet Baptist Church with 27 members. The Methodist Church was organized about the same time. One church had services in the morning, the other in the afternoon. It seems that people of the small community attended both churches.

The Pee Dee Associational Minutes showed no Sunday School report from Hamlet until 1894 when D. F. Harrill was named superintendent with 7 officers and teachers and 30 scholars. Mr. Harrill was superintendent through the year 1897. Reports are lacking from 1897 to 1901. Although no reports were made, Sunday School had continued. In 1902 J. A. Williams was Superintendent with 5 officers and teachers and 70 scholars. He served as superintendent in 1905.

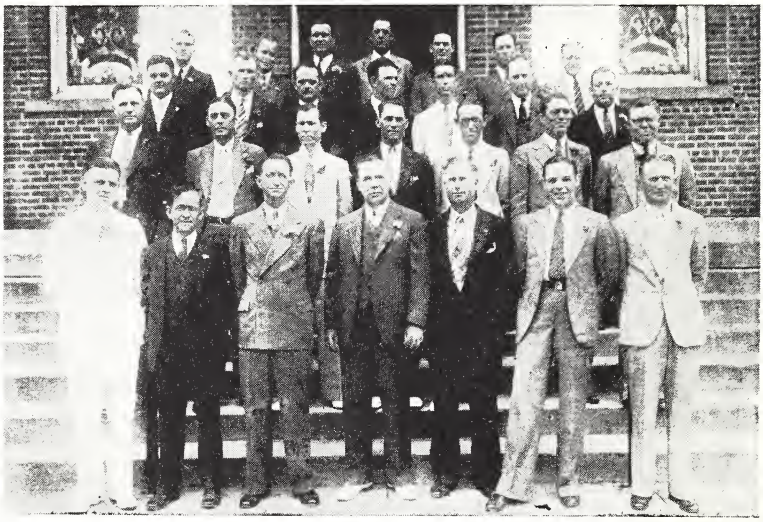
The following is a list of Sunday School Superintendents as reported in associational minutes:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1907 | C. Gresham (12 officers, 6 teachers, 100 scholars) |
| 1908 | T. R. Helms |
| 1909 | W. L. Criddlebaugh (8 officers, 6 teachers, 125 scholars) |
| 1910 | W. L. Criddlebaugh |
| 1911-1912 | E. F. Chisholm (10 officers, 6 teachers, 150 scholars) |
| 1913 | J. A. Williams |
| 1914 | W. L. Criddlebaugh |
| 1915-1942 | E. P. Pearce (He thoroughly organized the Sunday School. In 1916 there were 266 enrolled, in 1933 the enrollment was 633 with an average attendance of 360.) |
| 1943 | None (Mr. E. P. Pearce, Supt. died Aug. 22, 1943. The Association letter for 1943 showed no S. S. Supt.) |
| 1944-1946 | J. J. Gray |
| 1947 | B. R. Carroll |
| 1949-1951 | Joe H. Smith |
| 1952 | Ralph Harrell |
| 1953-1954 | C. H. Butcher |
| 1955-1956 | W. O. Allen (Highest enrollment of 989 in 1955) |

REPRODUCTION OF AN OLD SUNDAY SCHOOL POSTER - Date ?

# EACH MEMBER OF THIS CLASS EXTENDS YOU

# A CORDIAL WELCOME



Left to right, first row: Adolphus Williams, William Bagwell, Albert Perry, Melvin Gibson, Floyd Gibson, Marion Galloway, J. F. Hause; second row, C. A. McRee, teacher, J. A. Nolan, A. W. Rahn, D. R. Robinson, J. A. Parker, Carl Austin, H. E. Mack; third row, Tug Jones, Clyde Huff, Burt Gunter, Jake Nash, J. D. Jordan, T. M. Beam, John Massagee; fourth row, Bill Rollins, Harold Swann, Clarence Austin, W. A. Shelley, W. C. Warwick, G. L. McQueen and P. J. Schwarz.

To Our

# *YOUNG MEN'S BIBLE CLASS*

of the

# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

CORNER CHARLOTTE AND WILMINGTON STREETS

**9:45 A. M. Every Sunday Morning.** **C. A. McREE, Teacher**

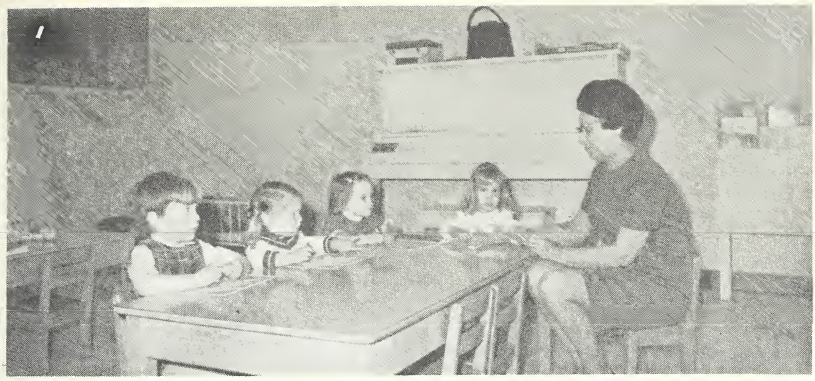
1957-1958 E. L. Robinson
1959 P. R. Uzzell
1960-1962 L. H. Williamson
1963-1970 J. T. Strickland
1971-1972 J. S. Ritter, Jr.

It would be too lengthy a list and quite a task to name all the Sunday School teachers, the heads of departments, the secretaries and pianists who have served so well through the years. Their names are certainly written with other faithful workers in the "Book of Life."

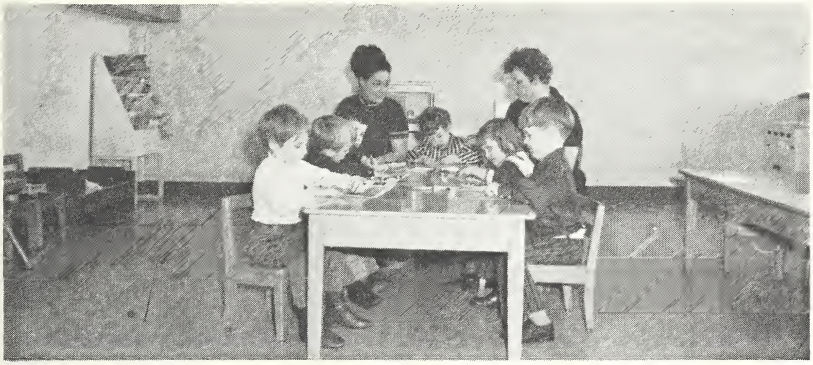
T. E. L. CLASS — Picture made in 1921- 1923

Miss Louise Woodall who has headed the Nursery Department for approximately 40 years.

NURSERY — Beth Broadway, Jeffrey Smart, Sean Monroe, Tammy Davenport, Charles Utter, Jr., Martha Byrd. Teachers — Mrs. Betty Atkinson and Mrs. G. B. Shelton.



PRESCHOOL AGE 2 — Jamie Ritter, Holly Berryman, Vanessa Shelton, Anna Hayes, Mrs. Olin Gardner (Teacher).



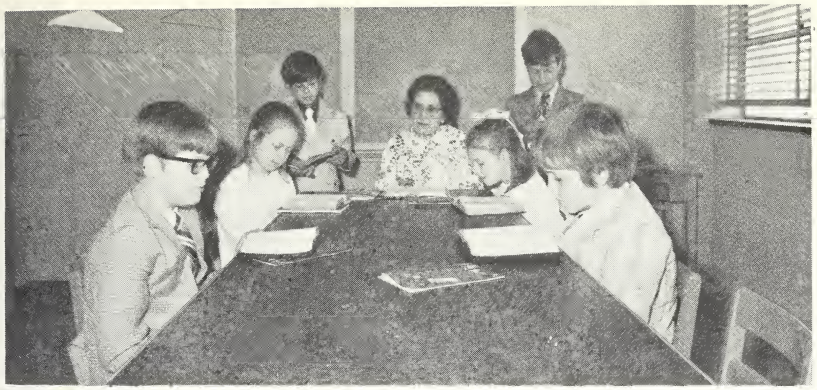
PRESCHOOL AGE 3 — Matthew Brown, Amy Utter, Scott Davenport, David Broadway, Jim Smart, Ken Davenport, Mrs. Harold High and Mrs. Gary Allen (Teachers).

PRESCHOOL AGE 4 — Harold High, Jr., Scott McInnis, Mrs. J. D. Nash (Teacher), Deborah Smith, Gary Ballard, Mrs. Donald Greene (Teacher), Mrs. Harry Lee White (Teacher), Jennifer Smart.

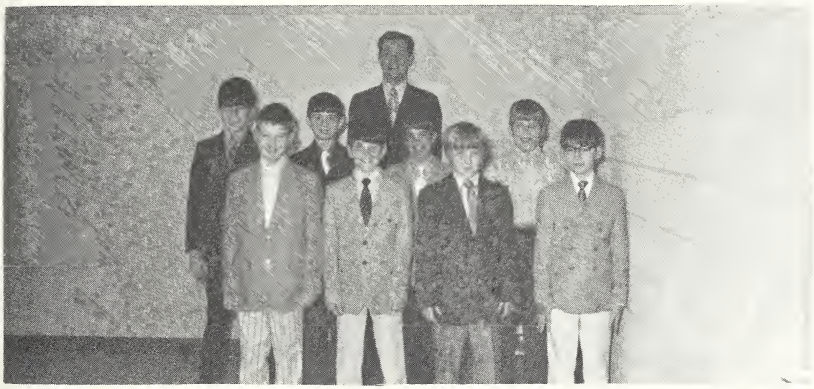
5—6 BOYS AND GIRLS — Workers — Mrs. L. D. Cook, Mrs. W. C. Sapp and Mrs. Luke Preslar. Chris Ritter, Caroline High. Robin Poythress, Pam Davenport, Deanne Greene, Annette Williamson. Bud Loving, Joe Hicks, Stephen Brown, Peter Howe.

BOYS AND GIRLS AGE 7 — Tim Gardner, Mrs. W. C. Tyner (Teacher), Clark McInnis, Joe Allen, Mrs. Ernest Dunn (Teacher), Richard Brown, Mrs. Charles Honeycutt (Teacher), Melanie Carroll, Mrs. J. W. Warr (Teacher), Paula Smith.

BOYS AND GIRLS AGE 8 — Robert Brown, Melinda High, Lori Williamson, Mr. C. W. Barnes (Teacher), Joey Singletary, Jamie Springer, Jimmy Pearce.



BOYS AND GIRLS AGE 9 — Bobby Pearce, Sonya Loving, Tim Easter, Mrs. Sarah Bell (Teacher), Jeff Greene, Cindy Burns, Michael Greene.

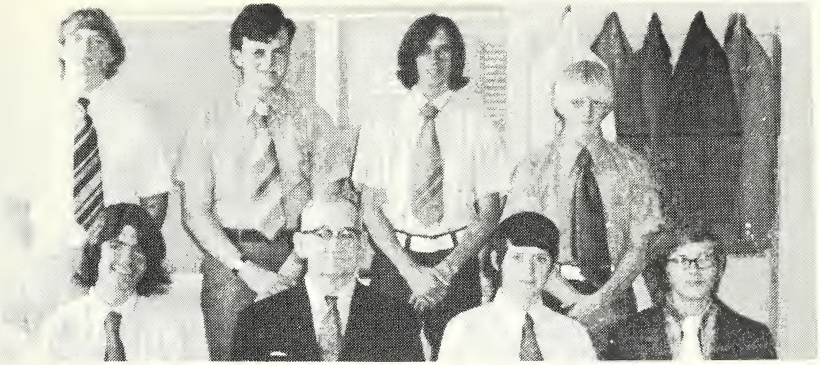


10 AND 11 YEAR BOYS — Robbie Burns, Gary Allen, Jr., Kent Hicks, Billy Sapp, Robert Byrd, Ervin Hennecy, Kevin Barnes, Tommy Alexander, Donald Greene (Teacher).

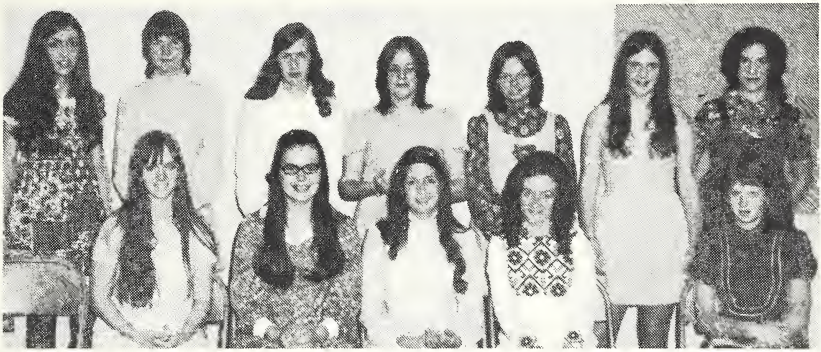
10—11 GIRLS — Mata Greene, Susan Ward, Mrs. Wayne Burns (Teacher), Lisa Lindsay, Lynn Ash.

12—13—14 GIRLS — Christie Boney, Ann Martin, Joy Rivers, Mrs. Carnie McDonald (Teacher), Deborah Berry, Susan Perry, Betty Singletary, Carol Polk, Paula Atkinson, Terry Alexander, Cathy Beck, Lynn Hurst, Jane Nance.

12—13—14 BOYS — Harris Davis, Mark Easter, Mr. W. C. Boney, Jr. (Teacher), Jack Carroll, Ozzie Queen, Donald Greene.



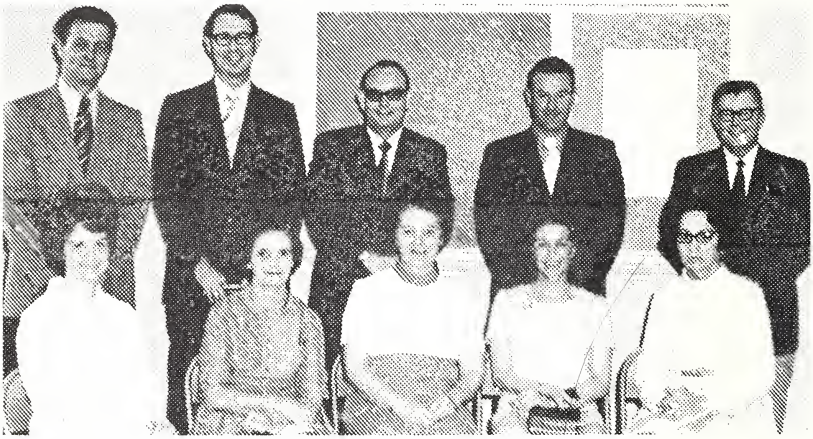
15—16 BOYS — Joe Easter, Mr. W. C. Tyner (Teacher), Chuck Wright, Sammy Rivers, Edwin Byrd, Tim Ward, John Patterson, Billy Pearce.



15—16—17 GIRLS — Mrs. H. E. Hansen, Jr. (Teacher). Cindy Green, Beth Queen, Cindy Carroll, Cathy Cockman, Pat Hennecy. Rebecca Greene, Deborah Billingsley, Lynn Langley, Theresa Billingsley, Grace Singletary, Mary Grace Queen, Cathy Clarkin.

17 YEAR OLD BOYS' CLASS — Keith Gibson, Mr. J. Wallace Jernigan (Teacher), Curtis Womble, Gary Ward, Hap Jernigan, C. W. Sutton.

M. M. L. SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS — Teachers — Mrs. L. E. Warren and Mrs. Earline Byrd.



FELLOWSHIP CLASS — Mrs. Richard L. Snyder, Mrs. Ralph L. Byrd, Mrs. J. W. Jernigan, Mrs. Robert Beck, Mrs. C. W. Sutton. Donald Greene, Richard L. Snyder, J. W. Jernigan, Harold High, Dr. W. M. Pearce (Teacher).

GRAY BIBLE CLASS — Teacher — Charles Alexander.

WILLIAMSON BIBLE CLASS — Teachers — Mr. L. H. Williamson and Mrs. J. E. Howe.

FIDELIS CLASS — 1st Row — Mrs. Harold Brown, Mrs. H.S. Land, Mrs. Maude Orr, Mrs. P. I. Howe, Mrs. J. L. Davenport, Sr., Mrs. R. W. Benbury. 2nd Row — Mrs. Z. V. Morgan, Mrs. R. C. Ross, Mrs. C. A. Whitlock, Mrs. W. A. Hill, Mrs. E. E. King, Mrs. J. L. Maul, Mrs. I. M. Smith, Mrs. John Strickland. 3rd Row — Mrs. G. R. Gaddy, Mrs. W. C. Boney, Jr., Mrs. U. L. Beck, Mrs. Catherine Forest, Mrs. D. C. Brown, Mrs. Herndon Thompson, Mrs. J. M. Dean, Mrs. R. L. Keziah, Mrs. R. L. Shaw, Mrs. Lura Gunter, Mrs. E. C. Hennecy, Sr.

T.E.L. CLASS — 1st Row — Mrs. O. G. Wood, Mrs. I. L. Freeman, Mrs. A. P. Martin, Mrs. W. N. Cosby, Mrs. H. C. Huff, Mrs. Charles Ash, Sr. 2nd Row — Mrs. P. C. O'Neil, Mrs. P. R. Uzzell (Teacher), Mrs. R. A. Preslar (Teacher), Mrs. J. C. Jordan, Mrs. H. B. Pate, Mrs. E. B. Smith. 3rd Row — Mrs. A. L. Helderman, Mrs. C. S. Hatfield, Mrs. William Gibson, Mrs. H. L. Benoy, Mrs. M. B. Wright

"Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. II Timothy 2:15."

As early as 1899 the Baptist State Convention passed a resolution to organize a Baptist Young People's Union and to affiliate with the movement which had previously been organized in 1890 in Chicago. History of the movement before 1909 showed sporadic attempts of any planned training procedures.

Wadesboro was host to the Baptist State Convention in 1909. At that time a resolution was made "to indorse the movement to provide an organization of the Baptist Young People's Union of the state and to appoint a committee to carry out the purpose of their resolution." The resolution was passed.

The first B.Y.P.U. annual meeting was held in Durham, North Carolina, in 1910 with 10 unions represented and 110 in attendance.

It is not known exactly when a B.Y.P.U. was organized in the Hamlet Baptist Church. However, Mrs. E. P. Pearce and Mrs. H. E. Joyner remember that Mrs. W. H. H. Bagwell organized a B.Y.P.U. while Rev. A. T. Howell, Sr., was pastor from June 1912, to August, 1916. Mrs. Pearce stated she was married in 1915 and there was a B.Y.P.U. before her marriage. She remembered Mrs. Bagwell's playing an old pedal type organ for the B.Y.P.U. which met on Sunday afternoon.

Association minutes began giving information on the B.Y.P.U. in 1928. That year the First Baptist Church reported 3 unions — 1 senior, 1 intermediate and 1 junior. The total enrollment was 25. No director was listed.

The following people served as Directors of the B.Y.P.U. through the year 1933:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1929 | A. C. Folsom |
| 1930 | Claude Taylor |
| 1931-1933 | Mrs. Marion Lynch |

The name B.Y.P.U. was changed to Training Union in 1934.

| | |
|---|---|
| 1934-1938 | Mrs. Marion Lynch |
| 1939 | Miss Bernice Arnold |
| 1940 | Mrs. Lane Patrick |
| 1941 | Lane Patrick, Jr. |
| 1942 | J. W. Thompson |
| 1943-1944 | L. H. Williamson |
| 1945 | Mrs. Edna McDougald |

1946-1947 Elwood Coggin
1948-1951 Tyler Dunn
1952 Elwood Coggins
1953-1954 J. T. Uzzell
1955-1957 Mrs. W. T. Lovette
1958-1959 H. E. Hansen
1960 Mrs. J. D. Nash
1961-1963 Mrs. W. N. Cosby
1964 Mrs. J. R. Prothro
1965-1966 W. E. Brown
1967 Dr. W. M. Pearce
1968 None

The name Training Union was changed to Church Training in 1969.

1969-1972 Dr. W. M. Pearce

Statistics shows the highest enrollment of Training Union was the year 1956 with 7 unions, 335 members and an average attendance of 145. In 1964 there were 9 unions, 253 members and average attendance of 118. The report for the church year ending September 30, 1972, showed an enrollment of 145 with an average attendance of 101.

## BAPTIST BROTHERHOOD

The Baptist Brotherhood of the First Baptist Church of Hamlet dates back to the night of September 5, 1951, when the State Brotherhood secretary, Mr. Horace Easom of Shelby, came to help lead in the organizing of a Brotherhood. Ralph Harrell, the Educational Director, and Dr. J. B. Willis aided in the organization consisting of 52 members.

The following men served as presidents of the Brotherhood:

1951 Bruce Sellers
1952-1953 Edgar Robinson
1954 D. R. Robinson
1955 H. A. Howard
1956-1957 L. H. Williamson
1958 Tom Brown
1959-1960 G. J. Earp

Only 17 members were reported for the year 1960. No reports have been given to the Association since; so it is assumed the year 1960 was the last year this organization was active.

GREY BIBLE CLASS — 1954

## WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION

No one living today knows the circumstances which brought about the organization of a Woman's Missionary Union at the First Baptist Church of Hamlet. The first report of any kind concerning the W.M.U. of our church was made in the associational minutes of 1906. Rev. L. N. Chappell, a former missionary to China, was the pastor. He and his wife could no doubt tell of many instances of the power of prayer and the financial help of the Woman's Missionary Societies while they were in China. Very likely through the help and inspiration of Mrs. Chappell a W.M.S. was formed. A Young People's Society was organized the same year, 1906.

As seen in a previous chapter, women delegates to the annual meeting of the W.M.U. were listed through the year 1917. From this long list of names, fond memories are recalled and grateful thanks should be given for their interest and love of church and their organization.

The W.M.U. Annual Meeting was held in the Spring as it is at the present time.

A list of W.M.S. Presidents follows:

1906 Mrs. A. Taylor
1907 Mrs. R. E. Hinson
1908 Mrs. A. M. Burleson
1909 Mrs. J. R. Boykin
1910-1911 Mrs. J. B. Jackson
1912 Mrs. J. A. Williams
1913-1916 Mrs. R. E. Hinson
1917-1918 Mrs. Minnie Windham
*(The late Mrs. C. B. Honeycutt)*
1919-1920 Mrs. C. B. Honeycutt
1921 Mrs. R. B. Freeman
1922-1944 Mrs. C. B. Honeycutt
1945-1946 Mrs. W. C. Boney, Sr.
1947-1953 Mrs. W. N. Cosby
1954-1956 Mrs. R. L. Harrington
1957-1961 Mrs. Paul Liles
1962-1966 Mrs. C. S. Monteith
1967 None
1968 Mrs. H. B. Stone
1969 Mrs. George T. McGowan, Jr., Director
1970 Mrs. F. L. Honeycutt
1971-1972 Mrs. F. L. Honeycutt, Director; Mrs. Robert Halyburton, President

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION — Picture taken 1945-47

In the year 1906 the W.M.S. and the Young People's Society gave $31.50 to Missions.

There were 12 members of the W.M.S. in 1907. Donations to missions amounted to $39.18.

The W.M.U. report in 1934 showed an enrollment of 259 and gifts of $1,061. Ten years later in 1944 there were 5 W.M.U. organizations—1 W.M.S., 1 Y.W.A., 1 G.A., 1 R.A., and 1 Sunbeam Band with a total enrollment of 125 members giving $2,854.20 to missions. This was Mrs. C. B. Honeycutt's last year as President.

In the year 1954 there were 18 W.M.S. units, (circles) 1 Y.W.A., 2 G.A. units, 2 R.A. units and 1 Sunbeam Band with a total enrollment of 244 of which 146 were tithers. Gifts this year were included in the unified budget. In the year 1964 there were 1 W.M.S., 1 Y.W.A., 2 ungraded G.A.'s, 2 intermediate organizations, 1 primary and 1 beginner Sunbeam Bands with a total of 278 members. The church letter for 1972 to the Pee Dee Associational office reported 8 organizations and an enrollment of 175.

The W.M.U. has exceed all goals for the past three years and was recognized as a distinguished W.M.U. for the year 1972.

It is regrettable that time or space will not permit the listing of names of all circle or group leaders, secretaries and treasurers who have served efficiently and effectively through the years. Such a list would include many, many devoted and dedicated women who counted it a privilege to serve our church and our Saviour.

WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION — Picture taken 1945-47.

## YOUNG PEOPLE'S ORANIZATIONS

The first account of any Young People's Society was in the year 1906 with Miss Pearl Carter in charge.

The Sunbeams were reported for the first time in 1908 with Miss Cora Atkinson, Miss Medlin and Mrs. Hinson as leaders. Gifts from the Sunbeams amounted to $7.80.

The following dedicated women have served as Sunbeam leaders:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1911-1914 | Miss Cora Atkinson |
| 1915 | Miss Cora Atkinson and Miss Mary Reynolds |
| 1916 | Miss Mary Reynolds |
| 1917 | Miss Pauline Yost |
| 1918-1919 | No report |
| 1920-1921 | Mrs. C. C. Robinson |
| 1922 | Mrs. I. L. Moore |
| 1923 | Mrs. T. E. Dabbs |
| 1924 | Mrs. J. M. Griffin |
| 1925 | No report |
| 1926-1927 | Miss Mary Sherrin |
| 1928 | No report |
| 1929-1933 | Mrs. J. B. Willis |
| 1934 | Mrs. Charles Ashe |
| 1935 | Mrs. H. L. Boney |
| 1936 | Mrs. R. L. Harrington |
| 1937-1939 | Mrs. Harold Brown |
| 1940-1941 | Mrs. W. H. H. Bagwell |
| 1942 | Mrs. J. D. Nash |
| 1943 | Miss Lucile Stubbs |
| 1944-1945 | Mrs. W. H. H. Bagwell |
| 1946-1947 | Mrs. Tyler Dunn |
| 1948-1949 | Mrs. J. C. McEachern |
| 1950 | Mrs. Janet Donahue and Mrs. Myrtle Wright |
| 1951 | Mrs. Janet Donahue |
| 1952 | Mrs. B. P. Boney |
| 1953 | Mrs. L. E. Warren |
| 1954 | Mrs. H. E. Hansen and Mrs. J. M. Dean |

After 1954 the Associational Minutes carried the names of the W.M.U. organizations and the number enrolled in each but no names of leaders.

## THE GIRLS' AUXILIARY

The G.A.'s were first listed in the Pee Dee Associational Minutes in 1920. The names of the leaders were listed through 1954. Since that time the number enrolled is all that is reported.

G. A. Leaders

| | |
|---|---|
| 1920 | Miss Ellen Glenn |
| 1921 | Mrs. L. D. Husbands |
| 1922-1924 | Mrs. W. F. Dillard |
| 1925 | No report |
| 1926-1927 | Mrs. W. A. Thaxton |
| 1928-1929 | No report |
| 1930 | Miss Jeanette Deloach |
| 1931 | Mrs. W. A. Benton |
| 1932 | Mrs. L. G. Jordan (J),* Mrs. Z. V. McGirt (I)** |
| 1933 | Mrs. J. P. Witherspoon, Mrs. L. G. Jordan (J)*, Mrs. Z. V. McGirt (I)* |
| 1934 | Mrs. H. E. Bennoitt |
| 1935 | Mrs. W. A. Benton |
| 1936 | Miss Bernice Arnold |
| 1937-1939 | Mrs. H. B. Pate |
| 1940 | Miss Ethel Walker |
| 1941 | Mrs. Catherine Maynard and Miss Eloise Harrington |
| 1942-1943 | Miss Eloise Harrington |
| 1944 | Mrs. C. L. Odom |
| 1945 | Mrs. A. A. Williams |
| 1946 | Mrs. C. L. Odom (I)*, Mrs. W. C. Hancock (J)* |
| 1947 | Mrs. James Short |
| 1948-1949 | Miss Helen Jones (I)* |
| 1948-1950 | Mrs. James Short (J)* |
| 1950 | Mrs. F. A. Samuels and Mrs. W. B. Byrd (I)* |
| 1951 | Mrs. W. B. Byrd (I)*, Mrs. H. H. Ballentine (J)* |
| 1952 | Mrs. J. T. Strickland |
| 1953 | Mrs. Billy Rivers (I)* |
| 1954 | Mrs. W. O. Allen (J)*, Mrs. H. A. Lakey (I)* |

*Junior

**Intermediate

GA CORONATION SERVICE
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1963 7:30 P.M.

First Row — (Left to Right) — Gay Gibson, Linda Howe, Gail Ingram, Cindy Carroll, Kathy Cockman, Johnnee Clarking, Jenifer Halyburton, Cheri McGowan, Jean Arnold, Diane Keaton and Susan Jordan.
Second Row — (Left to Right) — Gina Simmons, Joanne Quick, Faye Ewing, Marty Ormsby, Carolyn Jernigan, Sandra Jernigan, Diane Jernigan, Susan McDonald, Bobbie Jernigan, Susanne Dean and Linda Watson.
Third Row — (Left to Right) — Carroll Ingram, Susan Perry, Ozzie Queen, Sara Gaddy, Monty Wells, Nancy Hicks, Gary Gibson, Mata Greene, Harris Davis, Beth McCall, Gary Russ and Rebecca Ash.
Fourth Row — (Left to Right) — Frances Perry, Hayne Liles, Beth Preslar, Emilie Stone, Patricia Keaton and Janet Arnold.

## THE ROYAL AMBASSADORS

Because the women of the W.M.S. felt the young boys should be taught about missions, the R.A.'s were organized in 1920 and carried in the Associational Minutes through 1954.

The following men and women devoted many hours of study and work with the boys of the church:

R. A. Leaders

| | |
|---|---|
| 1920 | Mrs. L. D. Husbands |
| 1921 | Mrs. R. B. Freeman |
| 1922 | Mrs. C. J. Byrd |
| 1923-1930 | No reports |
| 1931 | Mrs. O. C. Morrison |
| 1932 | J. P. Witherspoon |
| 1933 | Mrs. W. A. Benton |
| 1934 | Mrs. Earl Knight |
| 1935-1940 | No reports |
| 1941-1943 | Mrs. W. H. H. Bagwell |
| 1944-1946 | H. C. Carroll |
| 1947 | No report |
| 1948-1949 | James Short |
| 1950 | No report |
| 1951 | Elwood Coggin (J)*, Ralph Harrell (I)** |
| 1952 | R. H. Lancaster (J)*, Mitchell Hargett (I)** |
| 1953 | Rev. Billy Rivers (J)*, Bruce Sellers (I)** |
| 1954 | Rev. Billy Rivers (J)*, H. D. Bledsoe (I)** |

*Junior

**Intermediate

The Brotherhood sponsored the R.A.'s as long as it was active. Since then there was no R. A. organization until this year (1972) when Rev. Jimmy Ritter organized two groups. It is hoped that these two groups grow in numbers and knowledge of the Bible and missions.

R. A. GROUP — 1955

## CHOIRS

The first little wooden building which served as the sanctuary of the Hamlet Baptist Church very likely had no musical instrument as Mr. Shortridge lent his lovely melodeon to places of worship. The second church building boasted of a pipe organ which was installed by Mr. J. A. Williams. His wife was the first organist. The organ had to be pumped by hand. The choir loft held twelve members. Following is a list of some of the choir members from 1905 until the present sanctuary was completed in 1919: Misses Ellie, Blake and Glennie Maske, Miss Agatha Gaddy, Miss Evelyn Hunt, Mrs. T. R. Helms, T. R. Helms, Dr. B. W. Williamson, Clyde Petty, Jarvis Brooks, Mr. Lindsey, Mrs. Edwards, and Mrs. Charles Lusk.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Williams were active in the church, she as organist and he as Superintendent of the Sunday School. There is no mention of them in records after 1913. They had placed the organ in the church but later had it moved to their home.

By 1912 the church had acquired a piano and an organ. Miss Annie Howell, daughter of the pastor, was pianist from 1912-1916. Some members remember Mrs. W. H. H. Bagwell playing an organ for B.Y.P.U. on Sunday afternoons.

Mrs. E. P. Pearce (Glennie Maske) and Mrs. Agatha Joyner are the only living member of the first choir in the present sanctuary. When the present chruch was dedicated on September 5, 1919, Mrs. R. M. Galloway, Sr., and Mr. Dewitt Glover sang "Hark, Hark, My Soul."

The pipe organ was installed while Rev. Page was pastor. The first organist was Mrs. E. F. Waldrop followed by Mrs. T. B. Roper.

Beginning in 1922 Mrs. J. B. Willis was organist for twenty-five years. She was also choir director through the year 1940.

Following are the names of organists and choir directors beginning with the year 1941:

| YEAR | ORGANIST | CHOIR DIRECTOR |
|---|---|---|
| 1941 | Mrs. J. B. Willis | Mrs. D. M. Wood |
| 1942 | Mrs. J. B. Willis | None |
| 1943 | Mrs. J. B. Willis | None |
| 1944 | Mrs. J. B. Willis | Miss Virginia Wood |
| 1945 | Mrs. J. B. Willis | Miss Virginia Wood |
| 1946 | Mrs. J. B. Willis | Miss Sue Owens |
| 1947 | Miss Miriam Willis | Miss Sue Owens |
| | Miss Alma Pearce | |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1948-1950 | Miss Alma Pearce | Miss Miriam Willis |
| 1951 | Miss Alma Pearce | Ralph Harrell |
| 1952 | Miss Alma Pearce | Elwood Coggin |
| 1953 | Miss Alma Pearce<br>Mrs. W. M. Pearce | None |
| 1954 | Miss Alma Pearce<br>Mrs. W. M. Pearce | B. W. Sellers |
| 1955 | Miss Alma Pearce<br>Mrs. W. M. Pearce | Miss Ila Hensley |
| 1956 | Mrs. J. M. Hall<br>Mrs. W. M. Pearce | Don L. Hill, Jr. |
| 1957 | Mrs. J. M. Hall<br>Mrs. W. M. Pearce | Donald E. Neal |
| 1958 | Mrs. J. M. Hall | Miss Martha Sue Pond |
| 1959 | Mrs. J. M. Hall | None |
| 1960 | Mrs. J. M. Hall | E. Bruce Sloop |
| 1960-1961 | Michael Howe<br>(Part of year) | |
| 1961-1963 | Mrs. Mary Snyder | E. Bruce Sloop |
| 1964 | Mrs. Mary Snyder | Lawrence M. Skinner |
| 1965 | Mrs. Mary Snyder | Lawrence M. Skinner<br>(Part of year) |
| 1966-1972 | Mrs. C. R. Hayes | Mrs. C. R. Hayes |

The Associational Minutes began to give more definite information about choirs in 1956. During this year (1956) under the direction of Don L. Hill, there were five choirs with an enrollment of 110. In 1957 with Donald Neal as director there were five choirs with 115 members enrolled. Five years later under E. Bruce Sloop there were seven choirs with 249 enrolled and an average attendance of 201. In 1966 under Mrs. C. R. Hayes direction, there were five choirs with an enrollment of 146. In 1971 there were four choirs with an enrollment of 110 under the direction of Mrs. Hayes. The 1972 report showed an enrollment of 93 and an average attendance of 85 with Mrs. C. R. Hayes as director.

Unfortunately there is no available record of all those women of musical ability and talent who have devoted much time and effort in training choirs from the beginners through the young people's departments. Although their names are not listed, the church membership has shown its love and appreciation by the large attendance whenever the choirs have performed.

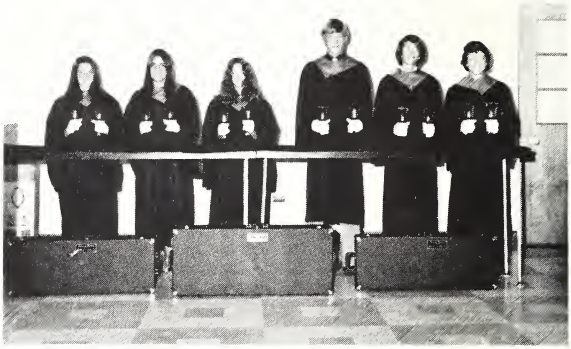
BEGINNER CHOIR — Scott Davenport, Ken Davenport, Jim Smart, David Broadway, Mrs. Billy Rivers (Co-Director), Rev. Billy Rivers. Mrs. L. D. Cook (Co-Director), Matthew Brown, Karen Pearce, Cara Collins, Scott McInnis, Harold High, Jr. (Absent: Mrs. Reggie Monroe, Co-Director).

PRIMARY CHOIR — Mrs. C. A. Whitlock (Assistant), Miss Ercie Stroup (Director), Jennifer Smart, Annette Williamson, Caroline High, Pam Davenport, Mrs. Richard Thomas (Assistant). Chris Ritter, Melanie Carroll, Clark McInnis, Robin Poythress, Debbie Hunt. Gina Woodall, Richard Brown, Jamie Springer, Bud Loving, Joe Allen, Jimmy Pearce, Rev. Rivers.

JUNIOR CHOIR — (Left to Right) — Billy Sapp, Sonya Loving, Tim Easter, Lori Williamson, Ricky Byrd. Jeff Greene, Gary Allen, Jr., Tim Rivers, Kay Gardner, Melinda High, Mrs. W. M. Pearce (Director), Ervin Hennecy, Robert Byrd, Bobby Pearce, Kevin Barnes, Tommy Alexander, Rev. Billy Rivers.

YOUTH CHOIR — Joe Rivers, Ann Martin, Jo Lynn Allen, Cindy Wright, Pat Hennecy. Terry Alexander, Christie Boney, Judy Allen, Sara Gaddy, Susan Perry. Mrs. T. E. Smart (Director), Mrs. R. L. Snyder (Assistant), Cathy Clarkin, Lynn Langley, Betty Singletary. Rev. Billy Rivers, Jack Carroll, Jr., Mark Easter, Kim Sutton, Cathy Beck, Jane Nance, Harris Davis, Ozzie Queen. Donald Greene, Billy Pearce, Keith Gibson. C. W. Sutton, Jr., Edwin Byrd, Joey Jernigan, Sammy Rivers, Joe Easter.

HANDBELL CHOIRS — Terry Alexander, Cathy Clarkin, Grace Singletary, Betty Singletary, Tweetie Ash, Edwin Byrd, Billy Pearce, Pat Hennecy (absent).



Ann Martin, Kim Sutton, Joy Rivers, Harris Davis, Sammy Rivers, Donald Greene. (Absent: Susan Perry and Cindy Wright).

Sara Gaddy, Judy Allen, Jo Lynn Allen, Christie Boney, Cathy Beck, Jane Nance, Joe Easter, Keith Gibson.

SENIOR CHOIR — (Left to Right) — Dr. W. M. Pearce, Terry Gibson, L. O. Pruden. Mrs. T. E. Smart, Mrs. Harold Brown, Mrs. Donald Greene, Mrs. L. D. Cook. Mrs. Terry Gibson, Mrs. Carol Ann McInnis, Mrs. Reggie Monroe, Mrs. J. S. Ritter, Jr. Mrs. C. R. Hayes (Director). Mrs. C. W. Barnes, Miss Sue Jordan, Mrs. C. A. Whitlock. Mrs. Nell Spittle, Mrs. W. B. Byrd, Mrs. C. S. Bolch, Mrs. Robert Beck. Charles Brown, W. C. Tyner, Ben Broadway, Jr., Donald Greene, Rev. Billy Rivers.

Mrs. Margaret Smart, Director of Handbell Choirs.

## HISTORICAL SKETCH OF OUR SILENT GROUP

*Contributed by*

Mrs. Norva Jernigan

Services for the Deaf of Hamlet began with a chance meeting. In 1938 some of the deaf attended the Sunday School Convention in Burlington, N. C. At the hotel, Rev. Robert Mann, an Episcopal minister, met Warren Gobble. In their conversation it was discovered that Mr. Gobble was from Hamlet and that Rev. Mann was being transferred to Rockingham.

Rev. Mann began his ministry in Rockingham on June 13, 1938. He held services in the Episcopal churches in Hamlet, Laurinburg, and Rockingham, and on Sunday afternoons, he held services for the Deaf at various churches.

In 1940, Rev. Mann performed the wedding of Mr. & Mrs. Oscar Stevens of Whiteville. This marked the first wedding in Hamlet in the Deaf group.

(Left to Right) Mrs. Gaither Gobble, Mr. Gaither Gobble, Mrs. Warren Gobble, Mr. Warren Gobble, Mrs. John Z. Brown and Mr. C. W. Barnes, Teacher.

Rev. Mann left for the army in 1942 and the Deaf were left without a minister. The group had grown quite large by this time and began to have Sunday School Classes at the First Baptist Church. Mr. Warren Gobble taught the class from 1943 until 1946, when Mr. Clarence Ketner took over and taught until 1969.

In 1948, Mr. Charles Jones was appointed the first missionary to the Deaf. Mr. Jones came to Hamlet and visited the Deaf in the surrounding areas to interest them in attending Sunday School.

In 1958, Mr. Clarence Ketner, working with the Educational Director of the First Baptist Church, John Protho, began a program of movies for the deaf. These movies were shown in the educational building on Saturday nights. Different men in the church volunteered to run the projector. These movies were carried on for a while after Mr. Protho left but eventually stopped in 1961. For a while afterwards, Mr. Ketner's Sunday School Class was the only service held for the Deaf.

In 1969, a minister came to Ellerbe and the Deaf attended services there for a period of fourteen months. After the minister left, the group came back to Hamlet and Mr. Ketner's class.

In 1969 Mr. Cecil Barnes was transferred to Hamlet by the Seaboard Coastline Railroad. During revival services that spring, Mr. Barnes visited with the Deaf and being fluent in sign language, invited the Deaf to the First Baptist Church for preaching services. This was the beginning of the interpretation of the worship services into sign language by Mr. Barnes for the Deaf.

In 1972 the Deaf began serving on various committees of the First Baptist Church of Hamlet. The Silent Service Outreach committee is made up entirely of the Deaf. The men serve as ushers and the women on the Welcoming Committee. Mrs. Leanna Ketner of this group is a Member of the Executive Committee of the Church.

## ASSOCIATIONAL WORKERS FROM FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HAMLET

The history of the Pee Dee Baptist Association dates back to 1815. At a meeting of the Sandy Creek Association, it was agreed that the association be divided and the new association be called the Pee Dee Association. The first session was held October 19-21, 1816, at Richland Creek (called Bethel in 1930), Montgomery County. The one hundred fifty-seventh Association Meeting was held at Laurinburg and Ellerbe First Baptist Churches on October 17, 1972.

Mr. C. B. Deane of Rockingham presented a "History of the Pee Dee Baptist Association" on October 19, 1965, at the Second Baptist Church of Hamlet. This was the 150th anniversary of the association. This historical sketch is included in the 1965 minutes.

The association has met with the First Baptist of Hamlet in the following years: 1910, 1919, 1926, 1944, 1955 (Spring), 1960 (2nd day), and 1967 (2nd day).

Although many churches in the association are older than the Hamlet First Baptist, none has shown a greater growth in numbers or gifts. A long list of associational workers has come from this church. They are as follows:

**Moderators of Association**

1923-1926 Mr. E. P. Pearce
1943-1951 Dr. J. B. Willis
1963-1964 Rev. B. F. Broadway
1972 Rev. James S. Ritter, Jr.

**Members of the General Board**

Dr. J. B. Willis (for eight years)
1960-1963 Rev. B. F. Broadway-Committee on Evangelism
1965 Rev. B. F. Broadway-Vice President

**Members of Executive Commitee**

1943-1951 Dr. J. B. Willis, Exofficio as Moderator
1945 Joe Smith
1946 J. J. Gray
1948-1950 E. B. Gunter
1952-1954 Mitchell Wallace
1959-1960 L. H. Williamson
1961-1969 W. C. Boney, Jr.
1963-1964 Rev. B. F. Broadway, Exofficio as Moderator
1970-1972 Olin Gardner

**Trustees of Wake Forest College**

1944 Dr. J. B. Willis
1955-1957 Dr. J. B. Willis

**Associational Trustees**

1966-1967 C. S. Monteith

**Associational Historians**

1955-1958 Dr. W. M. Pearce
1958-1959 Dr. J. B. Willis
1971-1972 L. H. Williamson

**Associational Treasurer**

1956 R. C. Ross
1958-1959 Miss Gwen Earp
1960 Mrs. Edna Ritter

**Association Brotherhood Officers**

1954-1957 Edgar Robinson, Program Vice President

**Interracial Cooperation Committee**

1971 Mrs. E. L. Jones, Chairman

**Associational Representatives on Committees**

1945 N. C. Baptist Orphanage—Mrs. Joe H. Smith
1946 Baptist Hospital—Joe H. Smith
1948-1951 Baptist Orphanage—Rev. J. B. Willis
1959 Home for Aging—Mrs. Paul Liles
1961 Home for Aging—L. H. Williamson

1962-1963 Home for Aging—Dr. J. B. Willis
1965 Christian Education—Rev. B. F. Broadway
1966-1967 Baptist Hospital—Rev. B. F. Broadway
1968 Christian Higher Education—L. H. Williamson
1968 Assoc. Council Parliamentarian—Rev. B. F. Broadway
1969 Baptist Hospital—Mrs. G. T. McGowan, Jr.
1969 Annuity Board—G. L. White
1970 Children's Home—Dr. W. M. Pearce

**Sunday School Associational Officers (first published in minutes of 1954-1955)**

1954-1956 Intermediate Supt.—Mrs. A. A. Williams
1956 Beginner Supt.—Mrs. L. H. Williamson
1959 Nursery Supt.—Mrs. G. T. McGowan, Jr.
1959 Pastor Advisor—Rev. B. F. Broadway
1960-1962 Supt. of Training—P. R. Uzzell
1960 Junior Supt.—Mrs. H. E. Hansen
1960-1962 Intermediate Supt.—Miss Anna Rivers
1960 Adult Supt.—L. H. Williamson
1961 Junior Supt.—Mrs. Edgar Robinson
1961-1962 Supt. Audio-Visual Aids—J. T. Strickland
1962 Cradle Roll Supt.—Mrs. O. G. Wood
1967 Young Peoples' Leader—Rev. B. F. Broadway

**Association Music Officers**

1960-1961 Director of Graded Choirs—E. Bruce Sloop

**Associational Vacation Bible School Officers**

1963-1965 Vacation Bible School Supt.—John R. Prothro

**Associational Training Union Officers (first published in minutes of 1954)**

1954-1955 Adult Director—L. H. Williamson
1956 Director—L. H. Williamson
1957-1958 Director—Joe Allen
1957 Pianist—Mrs. Don Neal
1958 Secretary-Treasurer—Mrs. D. C. Haithcock
1958-1959 Adult Director—L. H. Williamson
1958 Primary Director—Mrs. W. C. Tyner
1959 Secretary-Treasurer—Mrs. H. E. Hansen, Jr.
1959-1964 Intermediate Leader—Dr. W. M. Pearce
1960 Nursery Leader—Mrs. G. T. McGowan, Jr.
1960-1961 Song Leader—E. Bruce Sloop
1962-1964 Director—John T. Strickland
1962 Beginner Leader—Mrs. Louise Keaton

1963 Pianist—Miss Hayne Liles
1963-1964 Junior Leader—Mrs. John Prothro
1971 Church Training Director—Dr. W. M. Pearce

**Associational W.M.U. Officers**

1934-1935 Supt.—Mrs. Wallace Hartsell
1936-1937 Ass't. Supt.—Mrs. Wallace Hartsell
1943 Supt.—Mrs. J. D. Nash
1943 Secretary-Treasurer—Mrs. J. H. Hawkins
1944-1945 Literature Chairman—Mrs. E. B. Gunter
1944-1946 Community Missions Chairman—Mrs. J. H. Hawkins
1947-1948 R. A. Leader—Mr. Harvey Carroll
1948-1950 Margaret Fund and Training School Chairman—Miss Helen Jones
1948-1951 Young People's Leader—Mrs. James R. Short

1951 Literature Chairman—Mrs. J. D. Brigman
1952-1954 Literature Chairman—Mrs. Edgar Robinson
1952-1954 Margaret Fund and Training School Chairman—Mrs. Edwin Pearce
1953-1956 Community Missions Chairman—Mrs. Lindsey Odom
1953 Carver School Chairman—Mrs. Edwin Pearce
1957-1959 Community Missions Chairman—Mrs. R. T. Willis, Jr.
1958 G. A. Director—Mrs. H. B. Stone
1963-1965 Mission Study Chairman—Mrs. B. F. Broadway
1964-1965 Prayer Chairman—Mrs. C. S. Monteith
1964-1965 Treasurer—Mrs. D. M. Wood

**Associational Music Committee**

1968 Mrs. C. R. Hayes
Secretary
August, 1972 to present time Mrs. Billy G. Rivers

## CHURCH SECRETARIES

1936 to October 31, 1945 Mrs. J. H. Hawkins
November 1, 1945 to September, 1947 Mrs. Margaret Boyette ($5 per day)
September 1947 to April 1, 1951 Miss Helen Jones (also Ed. Dir.)
June 10, 1951 to August, 1953 Ralph Harell (Ed. Dir. & Ass't Pastor)
August, 1953 to August 31, 1955 Mrs. Billy Rivers
Summer 1954 Miss Mary Britt
November, 1955 to May, 1957 Mrs. J. S. Ritter, Sr.
Summer 1957 Miss Carolyn Killian

| | |
|---|---|
| September 1957 to November 1958 | Mrs. J. S. Ritter, Sr. |
| November 1958 to July 31, 1961 | Miss Gwen Earp |
| November 1959—Part time | Mrs. Jimmy Smith |
| Summer 1960 | Miss Carol Wells |
| August 1961 to December 1965 | Miss Sylvia Wright |
| December 1965 to July 1, 1966 | Mrs. Janice Turner |
| July 1, 1966 to October 25, 1968 | Mrs. Beth McDonald |
| Summer 1969, 1970, and 1971 | Miss Deborah Scarborough |
| October 1968 to September 1970 | Mrs. Betty Poythress |
| September 1970 to December 1971 | Mrs. Sandra Ballard |
| December 1971 to present time | Mrs. Lynda Davenport |

The above people have filled the office of secretary in a most competent and gracious manner.

## CHURCH CLERKS

The position of church clerk is important in that through his or her reports to the Pee Dee Association the progress of the church is recorded in the minutes of the association. From these minutes, statistics are compiled for the North Carolina Baptist State Convention minutes and Southern Baptist Convention records.

When the Hamlet Baptist Church was organized, J. G. McKeithan was elected church clerk. How long he served is not known. From Associational Minutes the names of the following and their length of service are recorded:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1878 | J. G. McKeithan |
| 1895 | D. F. Harrell |
| 1902 | W. A. Caudle |
| 1905 | B. F. Coleman |
| 1907-1908 | W. L. Criddlebaugh |
| 1909-1947 | W. H. H. Bagwell |
| 1948-1950 | T. G. Bagwell |
| 1951 | Dwight Edwin Pearce |
| 1952 | Mitchell Wallace |
| 1953-1957 | J. D. Patterson, Jr. |
| 1958 | Mrs. J. S. Ritter, Sr. |
| 1959 | Mrs. D. C. Haithcock |
| 1960 | Mrs. Stacey Gibson |
| 1961-1963 | Paul Liles |
| 1964 | George H. Cockman |
| 1965-1967 | Mrs. Carolyn Rassette |
| 1968-1972 | Mrs. George H. Cockman |

## CHURCH TREASURERS

Any organized group, small or large, usually needs some one to be responsible for money collected and disbursed. Although no church treasurer was listed in the Associational Minutes until the year 1923, it is definitely felt there were treasurers as three churches have been erected since the organization of Hamlet Baptist Church in 1878.

The following names have been listed as church treasurers:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1923 | G. L. Glenn |
| 1924 | T. A. Morris |
| 1925-1927 | None listed |
| 1928-1933 | B. R. Carroll |
| 1934 | B. R. Carroll—gifts for local use |
| 1934 | W. H. H. Bagwell—gifts for missions and education |
| 1935-1950 | C. E. Coggin |
| 1951 | T. G. Bagwell |
| 1952-1958 | R. C. Ross |
| 1959 | T. A. Brown |
| 1960 | Paul H. Wallace |
| 1961-1963 | H. C. Perry |
| 1964 | J. W. Jernigan, Jr. |
| 1965 | J. W. Wallace |
| 1966-1967 | T. L. Nowell |
| 1968-1971 | H. E. Hansen, Jr. |
| 1972 | C. W. Barnes |

## TRUSTEES, 1972

L. H. Williamson, Chairman W. E. Brown
Charles Alexander H. C. Carroll

## DEACONS

It has been impossible to obtain a list of Deacons from the time the church was organized in 1878 until 1939. The following is a list of men who have served their church in the high office of Deacon beginning with the year 1939. Those who have served as chairman of the Board of Deacons are marked with an asterick (*):

E. P. Pearce*
J. P. Witherspoon
C. E. Coggin
C. C. Robinson
B. R. Carroll*
C. H. Teague
L. D. Husbands
J. H. Smith
W. C. Boney, Sr.
R. M. Galloway, Sr.
J. E. Baucom
L. H. Copley
Charles Ashe, Sr.
L. R. Palmer
W. A. Shelley
J. J. Grey*
J. W. Thompson
S. C. Arnold
T. G. Bagwell
Joe Carr
Charles Alexander
E. E. King
W. N. Cosby
P. R. Uzzell*
D. N. Smart
G. H. Cockman
D. R. Robinson
Paul Long
R. L. Griffin
L. E. Warren
C. C. Taylor, Sr.
E. N. Rhodes
J. B. Willis
Vester Smith
J. S. Ritter, Sr.
W. E. Brown*
W. H. H. Bagwell
V. G. Vaughn
C. A. McRee
J. L. Richardson
G. A. Stafford
W. A. Benton
L. H. Williamson*
L. W. Spencer
H. A. Brown
C. H. Holland
E. B. Gunter
E. M. Owen
R. C. Ross
C. L. Odom
P. C. O'Neal
Edwin Pearce
J. F. Gibson
N. M. Gibson
Tyler Dunn
H. E. Hansen
J. W. Jernigan, Jr.
D. D. Long
G. T. McGowan, Jr.
R. L. Snyder
A. K. Maples
Wade Sessoms
C. E. Matthews
John Boney
Dr. Maylon McDonald
K. D. Ellis
T. E. Smart
R. T. Willis, Jr.
C. W. Barnes
W. C. Boney, Jr.
Elwood Coggin
W. O. Allen
Edgar Robinson
Anderson Britt
C. M. Freeman
E. M. Wallace
J. W. Wallace
H. E. Argoe
W. C. Tyner
Judson Uzzell
C. E. Stephens
J. E. Howe
C. H. Butcher
J. D. Patterson, Jr.
Dr. M. M. Lindsey
J. D. Nash
B. W. Sellers
Dr. W. M. Pearce*
Dr. H. O. Queen
W. B. Byrd
D. M. Long
T. L. Nowell
D. C. Brown
Ben Boney
C. S. Monteith
H. C. Perry
H. V. Massengill
Luke Preslar
R. M. Galloway, Jr.
J. A. Allen
E. W. Duncan
C. D. Singletary
J. T. Strickland

## LIBRARY

On November 7, 1951, Mrs. M. N. Kirkland was elected Librarian. The need of a library had been discussed for a number of years. Finally a committee was appointed to find a place and so arrange it for a library. All preparations were made by November, 1951. Many books were donated and from time to time new books are given as memorials or money donated for new books. Each year money is allocated in the budget for the library. One can find books on almost any subject. The reference books on the Bible are particularly good.

The following list contains the names of those who have served as librarians:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1951 | Mrs. M. N. Kirkland |
| 1952 | Mrs. L. H. Williamson |
| 1953 | Mrs. D. C. Brown |
| 1954 | Miss Emily Dunn |
| 1955 | Miss Mary Britt |
| 1956 | Miss Elizabeth Sneed |
| 1957 | Miss Mary Britt |
| 1958-1964 | Mrs. W. E. Graham |
| 1965-1968 | Mrs. Paul Liles |
| 1969 | Mrs. J. W. Jernigan, Jr. |
| 1970 | None |
| 1971-1972 | Mr. Richard Snyder, Chairman of Library Committee |

## FRUIT BEARING BRANCHES

East Hamlet Baptist Church was organized in 1939 from the First Baptist Church. The first pastor was Rev. W. H. Bogan. From a small number of charter members, the church has experienced phenomenal growth. In 1949 the name was changed to Second Baptist Church. Today the membership numbers 393. The beautiful brick sanctuary and pastorium are valued at $270,046.

From the Second Baptist Church the Oak Ridge Baptist Church was formed in 1954 thus making the First Baptist Church a grandparent. Today Oak Ridge Church has 82 members and the church property is valued at $30,000.

The First Baptist Church extended a helping hand to a mission in the Old Hundred Community which is located between Laurel Hill and Hamlet.

Rev. Rufus Bolton of Rockingham became interested in the community of Old Hundred which was without any spiritual ministry of any denomination. He was able to secure a small wooden building where he held Sunday School, preaching service and prayer meeting. This building was filled at almost every service. The First Baptist Church of Hamlet voted to sponsor this work and did so by helping to buy a lot whereon a block church building has been erected. From a mission, a church was constituted in 1955 and the same year admitted into the Pee Dee Association. The Associational Minutes for 1971 showed 25 church members, a Sunday School of 68 members and church property valued at $15,000.

On April 3, 1954, at 3:00 P.M. a dedicated group from the First Baptist Church met and formed the Calvary Baptist Church. In 1955 Dr. Willis made the motion to constitute the church and receive it into the Pee Dee Association. This group has grown steadily through the years. The Association Minutes for 1971 gave the membership as 232. The attractive new church building, the pastorium and thhe original meeting house (the Corning home) are valued at $128,000.

Needless to say the First Baptist Church is proud of the progress these aforementioned churches have made. Then the question comes to mind—what are we doing today to further carry out our Lord's command to go preach, teach, witness and make disciples of all nations beginning here at home?

## RELIGIOUS WORKERS FROM FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

It is unfortunate that there is no kept record of those men and women who have gone out from our church and serving in "Kingdom" work. However a list of those known today are listed. We regret if any have been overlooked.

| | |
|---|---|
| Lane Patrick | Minister |
| Bruce Hartsell | Minister |
| Lamar Robinson | Minister |
| Carl Uzzell | Minister |
| James S. Ritter, Jr. | Youth Minister |
| Edwin Pearce | Director Baptist Student Union Atlanta, Ga. |
| Mrs. Edwin Pearce | Writer |
| Elwood Coggins | Minister of Music |
| Johnny Singletary | Chaplain |
| Hubert Garrell | Chaplain |

## PARSONAGES

From the time the Hamlet Baptist Church was organized in September 1878, until Rev. J. B. Jackson's pastorate in 1911, there was no mention of a parsonage. The earliest pastors before 1906 likely lived near by and preached at Hamlet Baptist Church one or two Sundays each month.

In the year 1906 Rev. L. N. Chappell lived in Hamlet as records at Meredith College show that his daughter Eleanor's address was Hamlet. As to where he and other pastors lived from 1907 to 1911 is not known. The church had full-time pastors from 1907.

In the "Biblical Recorder" dated November 2, 1911, Rev. J. B. Jackson stated he had moved into the new parsonage. Upon questioning some of the members of the congregation who had worshipped in our second church building, it was learned that Rev. A. T. Howell, the pastor who followed Rev. Jackson, had lived at 222 Raleigh Street. No one seemed to know whether or not the Hamlet Baptist Church owned this building.

The question of owning the house on Raleigh Street was settled after spending some hours in the Register of Deeds office in Rockingham. On September 22, 1910, Mr. W. H. H. Bagwell, a trustee of the Hamlet Baptist Church, bought a lot (now 222 Raleigh Street) from Mr. W. R. Land for the sum of $500. On March 30, 1911, Mr. W. H. H. Bagwell, a trustee of the church, deeded said lot to A. J. Hunt, R. E. Hinson and J. R. Boykin—Trustees of the Hamlet Baptist Church.

Sometime between September 1910, and October 1911, a house was built on this lot and remained the parsonage until Rev. Page built a parsonage on Charlotte Street adjoining the present sanctuary. The property on Raleigh Street was sold July 24, 1917, to Mr. N. D. McDonald for $3,000 by the trustees R. E. Hinson, W. H. H. Bagwell, J. A. Williams, E. A. Harrill and W. L. Criddlebaugh.

Rev. Page and Rev. Willis were the only pastors to live in the parsonage on Charlotte Street.

About the year 1952 the parsonage on Charlotte Street was used as office space and Sunday School rooms for beginners until the Educational Building was completed in 1962.

On June 1, 1957, Mrs. B. R. Carroll (Johnnie Mae) gave the church a beautiful lot on the corner of Hylan Avenue and Madison Street for a new pastorium. Soon thereafter, building and furnishing committees began work planning for the pastorium. The contract was let and a lovely brick home was erected on the lot. The pastorium was dedicated April 5, 1959, which was the day of Dr. Willis's retirement and designated as "Jim Willis Day."

Rev. B. F. Broadway and family were the first to occupy the new pastorium. They lived in it from April 1959, until July 1, 1970. It was then given a new coat of paint and necessary repairs made for the next pastor, Rev. Billy Rivers. He and family came in October, 1970, and are still with us at the end of the 1972 church year.

222 Raleigh Street
FIRST PARSONAGE

**Side view of second parsonage built by Rev. J. M. Page, 1917-1918.**

**Present Parsonage.**

## GIFTS

"God loveth a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7

Through the years many gifts have been given to the First Baptist Church of Hamlet. Unfortunately, no record had been kept until about 1962 when memorial gifts of money were entered in a "Book of Remembrance." Many substantial gifts of money have been made as memorials to the various funds from time to time. Space will not permit mention of those monetary gifts.

In checking through records, the following gifts were mentioned. The first and most valuable gift was the lot on Charlotte Street where the first and second houses of worship were located. This gracious gift came from Mr. John Shortridge in Decembeer, 1878.

Three of the lovely stained glass windows in the sanctuary were memorial gifts. These windows were memorials to Mr. H. E. Maske, the R. E. Hinson family and J. R. and Ida Boykin.

In searching court records the wills of J. R. Boykin and wife, Ida Boykin were found. They may be of interest to the present members of the church.

**Will of J. R. Boykin**

$1,000 in cash to Hamlet Baptist Church

$1,000 in cash to Baptist Home Mission Board of N. C.

$1,000 in cash to Baptist Foreign Mission Board

At death of Ida S. Boykin, wife

$1,000 in cash to Thomasville Baptist Orphanage, white

$1,000 Kennedy Branch of Thomasville Orphanage

$1,000 in cash Odd Fellows Orphanage, Goldsboro

$ 500 in cash to Methodist Orphanage, Raleigh

$1,000 of personal property be paid to Home Mission Board of Southern Baptist Church of N. C.

$1,000 to Foreign Mission Board of Southern Baptist Church of N. C.

Dated September 27, 1919

**Will of Ida S. Boykin**

$500 to Thomasville Orphanage

$500 to Baptist Church of Hamlet

Baptist Church lot on Charlotte Street to sister Bettie L. Mears for term of natural life then to Ida May Mears in fee simple.

Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Boykin are buried in Mary Love Cemetery. Mr. Boykin died in 1920 and Mrs. Boykin in 1921.

Our lovely chimes were given by Thomas Gresham and Emma F. Bagwell in memory of her sister Willie Augusta Fisher and her brother Edwin B. Fisher, A.D. 1944.

The outside lamp posts were given by Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Hennecy, Sr., and the Fidelis class.

Mr. J. B. Smith and sons made and gave the table in the front vestibule of the church in memory of Mrs. J. B. Smith the year of 1953.

Mrs. Agatha Joyner and Mrs. Mabel Atkinson donated the refrigerator in the Omega House.

Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Martin also donated a refrigerator to the church.

Shortly before Mrs. Hawkin's death, she gave a Savings Bond worth $425.80 to the Building Fund.

A set of "Encyclopedia of Southern Baptist" was given to the church library in memory of Mrs. Hawkins.

Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Haithcock donated the candlesticks in the sanctuary in memory of Mrs. Mae Allen, wife of Joe Allen.

The Bible stand on the table in front of the rostrum was given in memory of Mr. H. A. Brown by his wife, Adelaide, and children, Richard and Mary Ann.

The boards displaying the numbers of songs for the worship hour were given by Mr. Henry Howard.

Years ago an anonymous giver gave $100 toward a chapel to be named for Dr. Willis.

The Communion service was given in memory of Billy Hicks by his wife and children.

The Communion linens were given by Mr. and Mrs. Dick Snyder and Mrs. Britt. The bottom cloth was in memory of Mr. C. S. Monteith by the Snyders, and the top cloth was given by Mrs. Anderson Britt in memory of her husband.

The two brass urns were given by Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Jones in honor of Mrs. C. C. Jones's 90th birthday and Dr. J. B. Willis's 88th birthday.

Billy, Bobby, Jimmy and Karen Pearce gave the Bible in the T.E.L. classroom in memory of their grandmother, Mrs. W. E. Brown.

Mr. W. E. Brown gave the silver collection plates in memory of his wife, Mrs. W. E. Brown.

The pulpit Bible was given by the family of Mrs. E. P. Pearce, Sr., in memory of Mr. E. P. Pearce, Sr., Sunday School Superintendent 1915-1943.

A lovely silver bowl was given by Dr. and Mrs. R. B. Garrison in memory of Mrs. E. L. Woodall.

Mrs. B. R. Carroll gave the lot on which the pastorium was built in memory of her husband, Mr. B. R. Carroll.

Perhaps there are other gifts that should be listed but there is no record of them.

At Christmas time, many poinsettias beautify the church given in honor of or in memory of loved ones. The same is true of Easter lilies at Easter time.

Through the years many monetary gifts may have been like unto "The Widow's Mite" but our Heavenly Father can multiply these gifts in such a way that people of all nations can be benefited. Never underestimate the power that can come from a grain of mustard seed.

## RESIDENT MEMBERS

Adams, Dr. Roy G.
Alexander, Mr. & Mrs. Charles
Terry, Tommy
Allen, Mr. & Mrs. Gary E.
Judy, Gary Jr.
Allen, Mr. & Mrs. J.A.
Allen, Mr. & Mrs. J.C.
Allen, Mr. & Mrs. M.C.
Allen, Robert E.
Jo Lynn
Alston, Mrs. J.L., Sr.
J.L., Jr.
Anderson, Mr. & Mrs. Reese
Ken, Susan
Andrews, Mr. & Mrs. R.H.
Ash, Mr. & Mrs. Charles, Jr.
Tweetie, Rebecca, Lynn
Ash, Mrs. Charles, Sr.
Atkinson, Mrs. R.H.
Atkinson, Mrs. T.T.

Bagwell, Mrs. T.G.
Bailey, Mr. & Mrs. W.P.
Ballard, Mrs. Lowery
Bankhead, Mrs. W.W.
Barnes, Mr. & Mrs. C.W.
Kevin, Lynn Langley
Barrington, Mrs. F.M.
Beasley, Mrs. Ronnie
Beck, Mr. & Mrs. Robert F.
Robert, Jr., Cathy
Beck, Mr. & Mrs. U.L.
Bell, Mrs. Sarah
Benbury, Mrs. R.W.
Bennett, Mr. & Mrs. J.C.
Benoy, Mrs. H.L.
Berry, Mrs. Robert
Deborah
Berryman, Mrs. Jane
Billingsley, Mrs. M.C.
Alan
Black, Mrs. B.S.
Ada, Butler
Bolch, Mrs. Charles S.
Boney, Mr. & Mrs. Ben P.
Christie
Boney, John
Boney, Mr. & Mrs. William C., Jr.
Boney, Mrs. W.C., Sr.
Boulier, Mrs. Jack
Boyd, Mrs. R.C., Sr.
Brigman, Mrs. Howard
Brigman, Mr. & Mrs. J. Dan
Brigman, Mrs. J.F.
Britt, Mrs. Anderson
Broadway, Mr. & Mrs. Ben F., Jr.
Brooks, Mrs. L.D.
Brown, Mr. & Mrs. Albert
Brown, Charles Wilkes
Richard
Brown, C.W., Sr.
Brown, Mr. & Mrs. D.C.
Brown, Mr. & Mrs. David
Brown, Mr. & Mrs. Harold F.
Brown, Mrs. John Z.
Brown, Thomas W.
Brown, W.E.
Brown, Mrs. W.T.
Bryant, Mrs. L.K.
Linda
Bryce, Mrs. G.W.
Bullard, Jerry M.
Bullock, Miss Thelma E.
Bullock, Harold A.
Burns, Mr. & Mrs. James F.
Burns, Mr. & Mrs. Robert
Burns, Mr. & Mrs. Wayne
Butcher, Mr. & Mrs. C.H.
Butt, Mrs. J.E.
Byrd, Mrs. R.L.
Ricky
Byrd, Mr. & Mrs. W.B.
Arthur, Edwin, Robert

Cagle, John N.
Carroll, Mrs. B.R.
Carroll, Mr. & Mrs. Harvey C.
Carroll, Mr. & Mrs. Jack
Cindy, Jack, Melanie
Clark, Mr. & Mrs. Lester B.
Clarkin, Mrs. J.R.
Cathy
Clements, Frank A.
Cockman, Mr. & Mrs. George, Jr.
George III, Kathy
Coggin, Mr. & Mrs. C.E.

## RESIDENT MEMBERS
**(continued)**

Coleman, Mrs. Thomas J.
Collins, Mr. & Mrs. Craig
Conder, Mrs. P.H.
Cook, Mr. & Mrs. L.D.
Cooper, Mr. & Mrs. A.W.
Cooper, Mr. & Mrs. W.H.
Copley, Mrs. Luke
Cosby, Mr. & Mrs. W.N.
Covar, Mr. & Mrs. J.G.
Crooke, Mr. & Mrs. J.W.
Crow, John M.

Davenport, Mr. & Mrs. D.H., Sr.
Davenport, Mr. & Mrs. D.H., Jr.
Davenport, Mrs. J.L., Jr.
Davenport, Mr. & Mrs. J.L., Sr.
Davenport, Mr. & Mrs. J.L., III
Davis, Mrs. O.D., Jr.
Harris
Dawkins, Mr. & Mrs. C.D., Jr.
Randy Reese
Dean, Mrs. J.M.
Dozier, L.B.
Dunn, Mr. & Mrs. Ernest

Easter, Betsy Brown
Joe, Mark, Tim
Easterling, Mrs. Ed
Ellis, Mrs. K.D.
Epting, Mrs. J. Claude
Evans, Mrs. Ronnie

Fallow, Mrs. J.B.
Ferree, Mr. & Mrs. Donald G.
Charles
Fetner, Ashley Stewart
Fincher, Mr. & Mrs. Leo
Folger, Mrs. G.O.
Fowler, M.C.
Foxworth, Mrs. C.E.
Freeman, Mr. & Mrs. I.L.
Freeman, Mrs. P.L.
Freeman, W. Thurman
Frye, Mr. & Mrs. H.F., Sr.
Frye, William D.

Gaddy, Mrs. G.R.
Gaddy, Mr. & Mrs. Robert B.
Gaddy, Mr. & Mrs. Wilburn D.
Galloway, Mr. & Mrs. R.M., Jr.
Gardner, Mr. & Mrs. Olin
Gardner, J.R.
Gardner, Mr. & Mrs. R. Stan
Bert and Kay
Gatch, Mr. & Mrs. J.N.
Donald
Gibson, H.M., Sr.
Gibson, Mr. & Mrs. J. Floyd
Gibson, Mr. & Mrs. N.M.
Keith
Gibson, Walter H.
Gibson, Mr. & Mrs. William V.
Gibson, Mr. & Mrs. Terry
Gobble, Mr. & Mrs. Gaither E.
Gobble, Mr. & Mrs. Warren
Graham, Mr. & Mrs. W.E.
Grainger, Mrs. Peggy C.
Gray, Mrs. J.J.
Green, Mr. & Mrs. H.C.
Cindy
Greene, Mr. & Mrs. D.B.
Donna, Donald, Jeffery
Greene, Mr. & Mrs. E.C., Sr.
Pam, Rebecca, Mata, Michael
Greene, Johnny R.
Griggs, Mr. & Mrs. R.L.
Bill
Grimes, Mrs. W.E.
Gunter, Mr. E.B.
Gunter, Mrs. Lura M.

Hadden, Mrs. E.J.
Haddock, H.B.
Hall, Mr. & Mrs. J.M.
Haltom, Mrs. Charles
Halyburton, Mr. & Mrs. R.R., Sr.
Tommy
Hansen, Mr. & Mrs. Harry E.
Harrelson, Mrs. Sue
Harrington, Mrs. R.L.
Harris, Mr. & Mrs. J.P.
Jimmy, Beth
Harris, Mrs. J.T., Sr.
Harris, Mrs. Mack W.
Trudy
Hart, Fred D.
Hartgrove, Mrs. Robin
Hatfield, Mrs. C.S.
Jackie

## RESIDENT MEMBERS
**(continued)**

Hawks, Mrs. Linda Beasley
Hayes, Mrs. C.R.
Helderman, Mrs. A.L.
Hendricks, Mrs. George M.
Hennecy, Mr. & Mrs. E.C., Jr.
  Pat, Ervin
Hennecy, Mrs. E.C., Sr.
Hicks, Mr. & Mrs. D.K.
Hicks, Miss Barbara Lynn
Hicks, Miss Nancy
Hicks, R.L., Jr.
  Bobby
Higgins, Mr. & Mrs. T.A.
High, Mr. & Mrs. Harold W.
Hill, Mrs. Mae H.
Honeycutt, Mr. & Mrs. C.R.
Honeycutt, Mrs. F.L.
Howard, Cynthia Kay
Howe, Mr. & Mrs. C.T.
Howe, Mr. & Mrs. J.E.
Howe, Mr. & Mrs. P.I.
Howell, D.R.
Howell, Mr. & Mrs. J.H., Jr.
Howell, Mrs. J.H., Sr.
Hudson, Mr. & Mrs. C.W.
Huff, Mrs. George
Huff, Mrs. H.C., Sr.
Huguelet, Mrs. Arthur
  Gilbert, Arthur
Hunt, Mrs. Herbert
Hunt, Mrs. Pete
Hurst, Miss Lynn
Hutchinson, Mr. & Mrs. L.H.

Ingram, Mr. & Mrs. R.F.

Jenkins, Donald
Jernigan, Mr. & Mrs. J. Wallace
  Hap
Jernigan, Mr. & Mrs. J.W.
  Joey
Johnson, Mr. & Mrs. J.R.
Johnson, Mr. & Mrs. Lewis B.
Johnson, Mrs. Ricky
Johnson, Sam W.
  Mike
Johnson, Mr. & Mrs. W.D.
Johnson, Walter Lee
Jones, Mrs. C.C.
  Katherine
Jones, Mr. & Mrs. E.L.
Jordan, Mr. & Mrs. D.U.
Jordan, Mrs. J.C.
Joyner, Mrs. H.E.

Keaton, Mrs. David
Ketner, Mrs. Lenna Stewart
Keziah, Mrs. R.L.
King, Mr. & Mrs. E.E., Jr.
Knight, Mrs. Danny
Kressley, Al

Land, Mrs. H.S.
  Jean
Landfear, Mrs. B.W.
Lane, Mr. & Mrs. B.S.
Liles, Mrs. H.J.
Lindsey, David H.
Long, Mr. & Mrs. D.M.
Long, Mrs. I.B., Jr.
Loving, Mr. & Mrs. John
  Sonya

McCrary, Mrs. Robert, Jr.
McCullough, Mr. & Mrs. H.C.
  Robbie
McGowan, Mr. & Mrs. G.T., Jr.
McGowan, Mrs. G.T., Sr.
McGregor, Mrs. J.H.
McInnis, Mrs. C.E.
McInnis, Sidney
McInnis, Mrs. Carol Ann
  Clark
McKee, Mr. & Mrs. D.A., Jr.
McKeithan, Mrs. M.A.
McLellan, Malcolm A.
McMahan, Mr. & Mrs. C.R.
McManus, Mr. & Mrs. L.R.
McQueen, Mr. & Mrs. G.L.
Maddrey, Mrs. L.W.
Maples, Mr. & Mrs. A.K.
  Harry
Martin, Mrs. A. Flake
Martin, Mr. & Mrs. A.P.
Martin, Mr. & Mrs. G.W.

## RESIDENT MEMBERS
(continued)

Martin, Mrs. J.U., Jr.
Anne, Johnny
Matthews, Mr. & Mrs. C.E.
Paul
Maul, Mr. & Mrs. J.L.
Medlin, Mrs. Lillian Wright
Sue
Monroe, Mr. & Mrs. G.W., Jr.
Monroe, Mr. & Mrs. G.W., Sr.
Moon, Mr. & Mrs. Johnnie
Morgan, Vance E.
Morris, Mr. & Mrs. T.A.
Muse, Mrs. Roy

Nance, Mrs. Martha B.
Martha Jane
Napier, Mrs. R.M.
Nancy
Nash, Mr. & Mrs. J.D.
Nash, Robert A.
Neil, Mrs. James
Nettles, Mrs. Lena
Nowell, Mr. & Mrs T.L.
Nowlan, George F., Jr.

O'Neal, Miss Helen
Ormsby, Mr. & Mrs. A.S.
Marty
Ormsby, A. Sherrill, Jr.
Ormsby, Mr. & Mrs. John L.
Orr, Mrs. Maude
Osborne, Mrs. E.J.
O'Tuel, Mrs. W.G.

Pait, Richard
Pait, Mrs. W.D., Sr.
Pate, Mr. & Mrs. E.H., Jr.
Ricky
Pate, Mrs. H.B.
Patterson, Mr. & Mrs. J.D., Jr.
Payton, Mrs. Nicie A.
Pearce, Mrs. E.P., Sr.
Pearce, Dr. & Mrs. W.M.
Billy, Bobby, Jimmy, Karen
Peninger, Alvin
Peninger, Mr. & Mrs. J.C.
Perry, Albert W., Jr.
Perry, Mr. & Mrs. H.C.
Susan
Phifer, Mr. & Mrs. Horace A.
Phifer, Mrs. W.A.
Pittman, Mr. & Mrs. J.J.
Pitts, Mrs. J.R.
Poole, Mrs. John
Poythress, Mrs. Betty I.
Preslar, Mr. & Mrs. M.L.
Deborah Billingsley,
Theresa Billingsley
Preslar, Mrs. R.A., Sr.
Preslar, Mr. & Mrs. Richard A.
Presler, Mr. & Mrs. Richard A.
Prevate, Mr. & Mrs. Robert L., Sr.
Privette, Mrs. J.A.
Pruden, L.O., Jr.
Pruitt, Mrs. J.V.
Pat
Putnam, Mrs. B.A.
Putnam, Mr. & Mrs. Richrd A.

Queen, Dr. & Mrs. Hugh O.
Mary Grace, Ozzie

Rachels, A.J., Jr.
Rachels, Mr. & Mrs. A.J., Sr.
Rhodes, Miss Annie Elaine
Rhodes, Mr. & Mrs. G.P.
Marian
Richardson, Mrs. Martha W.
Richardson, George Edwin
Ritter, Rev. & Mrs. J.S., Jr.
Ritter, Mr. & Mrs. J.S., Sr.
Bobby
Rivers, Rev. & Mrs. Billy G.
Sammy, Joy, Tim
Robinson, Mrs. Debra Pate
Robinson, Mr. & Mrs. D.R.
Rocker, Mr. & Mrs. C.T.
Roofe, Mr. & Mrs. F.E., Jr.
Roofe, Mrs. F.E., Sr.
Roofe, Mrs. J.B.
Ross, Mrs. R.C.

Samuels, Mr. & Mrs. F.A.
Gary
Samuels, James L.
Sapp, Mr. & Mrs. W.C.
Scarborough, Mrs. W.V.
Scott, Mrs. R.J.

## RESIDENT MEMBERS
**(continued)**

Shaw, Mrs. H.M.
Shaw, Mrs. R.L.
Shelley, Mr. & Mrs. W.A.
Shelton, Mr. & Mrs. G.B., Jr.
G.B. III
Sheppard, Mrs. U.F.
Short, Mr. & Mrs. J.R., Sr.
Short, James R., Jr.
Short, Mr. & Mrs. Robert
Shortridge, Mr. & Mrs. J.F.
Singletary, Mr. & Mrs. C.D.
Singletary, Joe Gary
Betty, Grace
Smart, Mr. & Mrs. D.N.
Smart, Mr. & Mrs. T.E.
Smith, Charles C.
Smith, Mrs. C.L.
Smith, Mr. & Mrs. David L.
Smith, Mrs. E.B.
Linda
Smith, Mrs. I.M.
Smith, Mr. & Mrs. J.B., Sr.
Smith, Mr. & Mrs. Vester S.
Smith, Mrs. W.H.
Snell, Mrs. George
Snyder, Mr. & Mrs. R.L.
Spencer, Linwood W.
Spencer, Mrs. Walter J.
Spittle, Mrs. Nell
Stewart, Mrs. J.M.
Debra, Roger
Stogner, Mr. & Mrs. H.C.
Henry, Larry, Wayne
Stone, Mr. & Mrs. H.B.
Tommy
Strickland, Mr. & Mrs. J.T.
Stroup, Miss Ercie
Stroup, Miss Lottie
Sutton, Mr. & Mrs. Chester W.
C.W., Jr., Kim
Swaim, Mrs. Worth W.

Teal, Miss Helen Kay
Thompson, Mrs. Herndon
Thomas, Mr. & Mrs. Richard W., Sr.
Ricky
Tilghman, Mr. & Mrs. John H.
Tucker, Mrs. A.W.
Henry
Turner, Mr. & Mrs. Jerry
Turner, Mrs. Sam
Mary Alice
Tyner, Mr. & Mrs. W.C.

Utter, Mrs. Charles
Uzzell, Mrs. P.R.

Wabberson, Mrs. Dell F.
Wallace, Mr. & Mrs. J.W.
Wallace, Mr. & Mrs. Paul H.
Ward, Mr. & Mrs. Charles B.
Susan, Tim
Warner, Mrs. J.L., Jr.
Warr, Mrs. J.W.
Warren, Mrs. L.E.
Watson, Mrs. Patricia
Watson, Mr. & Mrs. R.L.
Lee
Weatherly, Miss Margaret Denise
Wells, Mr. & Mrs. B.P.
Wells, Mrs. Lorena Wright
West, Mr. & Mrs. W.B.
Wheeler, Mrs. C.T.
White, Mr. & Mrs. G.L.
Kevin, Mark Dawkins
White, Mr. & Mrs. Harry Lee
Whitlock, Mr. & Mrs. C.A.
Wilkinson, Mrs. Esther T.
Williams, Mrs. A.A.
Williamson, Mr. & Mrs. L.H.
Williamson, Mr. & Mrs. Ronnie
Annette, Lori
Willis, Dr. J.B.
Wilson, Mrs. Betsy
Womble, Mr. & Mrs. Leonard
Wood, Mr. O.G., Sr.
Woodall, Miss Louise
Woodall, Mrs. Nell
Wooten, Mrs. J.M., Sr.
Wooten, Mr. & Mrs. T.E.
Worrell, Mrs. A.T.
Wrape, Mrs. T.D.
Wright, Mrs. B.E.
Wright, Mrs. J.E.
Wright, Mrs. M.B.
Wright, Mrs. Woodrow
Carol, Chuck, Woody

Young, Mrs. Faye Ewing

Zilonka, Mrs. E.P.

# Home-Bound Members

Mrs. Tom Bagwell
316 Entwistle

Mrs. J. C. Bennett
803 McDonald

Mrs. M. C. McKeithan
702 E. Hamlet Avenue

Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Fowler
320 Terry Street

Mrs. L. E. McGee
Dundee Nursing Home
Bennettsville, S. C.

Mrs. J. A. Privette
Entwistle Street

Mrs. P. L. Freeman
403 Hamlet Avenue

Mrs. A. L. Helderman
709 Rice Street

Mrs. C. E. Foxworth
Folk Nursing Home
Pamplico Highway
Rt. 3, Box 306
Florence, S. C.

Mrs. B. W. Landfear
700 Hylan Avenue

Mrs. K. D. Ellis
514 Entwistle

Mrs. Butler Black
424 Oak Street

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Butcher
301 Spring Street

Mrs. C. C. Jones
208 Henderson Street

Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Bailey
509 Washington Street

# Peace Corps

Robert R. Halyburton, Jr.
Voluntarios da Paz
Caixa Postal 893
Belem, Para
Brazil

John B. Carroll
186 Reu de la Kasbak
American Embassy
Tunis, Tuniscia
Africa

# Military

Major H. C. Carroll
JANAF Attache Office
American Embassy
APO Vientiane
San Francisco, Calif. 96352

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Hubert Garrell
Alpine Rd.
Columbia, S. C.

Lt. Col. E. B. Gunter, Jr.
Seymour Johnson AFB
Goldsboro, N. C.

Charles Honeycutt, Jr.
140 Parkie Dr.
Wilkshire Estate
Warren Robbins, Ga. 31093

Chaplain (Captain) John D. Singletary
31st CMBT SPT GP (HC)
Homestead AFB, Florida 33030

# Non-Resident Members

Adams, Mr. and Mrs. R. M., Jr.
Allen, Mrs. Letha Prevatte
Allen, Mrs. Mary
Allen, Miss Penny
Allen, Miss Sandra
Allen, Velta
Ambrose, Mrs. Thelma
Atkinson, Mrs. L. E.
Atkinson, Ellis
Atkinson, Richard
Austin, Glenn
Austin, Lynn

Bankhead, Mrs. J. L.
Bankhead, Mrs. Ruby
Barnhill, Mr. and Mrs. C. L.
Barrington, Richard E.
Bass, Mrs. Sherry
Belk, Mrs. Brenda P.
Bell, Miss Martha
Billingsley, R. C.
Billingsley, Sonny
Bivens, Billy Joe
Boney, Mr. and Mrs. Carey
Boney, Miss Patricia
Bradshaw, Charlie
Britt, Gene
Brown, Mrs. E. Alar
Brown, Ernest, Jr.
Brown, Horace E.
Brown, Robert L.
Bruton, J. S.
Bryant, Mr. and Mrs. Lindsey
Bullock, Todd
Bunch, Mr. and Mrs. M. L., Jr.
Jimmy, M. L. III, Richard
Burr, Miss Mary Ella
Byrd, Mrs. Stanley

Cagle, Mrs. A. A.
Carace, Mrs. Nick
Carnes, Mrs. Barry
Clark, Mrs. Jeannette
Copley, Henry
Covington, Mrs. Kem
Croft, Mrs. R. A.

Davenport, Mr. & Mrs. Tommy
DeMay, Mrs. Mark
Dillsaber, Mrs. Floyd
Dobbins, Mary
DuMeer, Bobby
Dunn, Tommy

Easterling, George
Evink, Mrs. Gary

Foster, Mrs. O. R.
Foxworth, Charles
Frye, Hobart F., Jr.
Frye, Ralph T.
Ferree, Donald, Jr.
Flynt, Mrs. James

Garrell, Chaplain and Mrs. Hubert
Joel and Leslie
Garrison, Edward
Gibson, Stacy F.
Glover, Mrs. Thomas Neil
Gray, John Michael
Green, Mrs. J. E.
Green, Mr. and Mrs. Robert
Gulledge, Mrs. David

Hall, Mrs. Charles G.
Halyburton, Robert Jr.
Harrill, Mrs. C. C.
Harris, Major Walter
Harris, Mrs. Steve
Herring, Mr. and Mrs. Roy
Hicks, John E.
Hilburn, Alton
Hobbs, Eddie
Hodges, Gary
Honeycutt, F. L., Jr.
Hord, Glenda Sue
Howe, Alan
Howe, John E., Jr.
Hudson, Charles Bruce
Huff, Mrs. Steve
Hunsucker, Mrs. A. W.
Hunsucker, John
Hunsucker, Judith

Irwin, Ralph W.
Irwin, Wilson M.

## NON-RESIDENT MEMBERS CONTINUED

Jeffreys, Mrs. Thara
Jernigan, Mr. and Mrs. M. S.
Barbara, Carolyn, Sandra
Jordan, Freddie

Keele, Miss Dula
Kemble, Mrs. John
Keziah, Randy
Kiker, D. T.
Kinsman, Miss Stacey

Lampley, Mrs. Johnny
Lancaster, Robert
Lancaster, Russel
Lawson, Mrs. Susan
Lee, Mrs. Richard
Leviner, Mrs. M. L.
Lindsey, William James
Long, Mrs. Jerry
Lucas, Mrs. J. E.

Maddrey, Lloyd, Jr.
Malherek, Mrs. Dennis
Maples, Hubert, Jr.
Martin, A. Flake, Jr.
Martin, Mrs. C. A.
McCollum, Anthony W.
McDuffy, Annie
McGirt, Mrs. John W.
McGowan, Dr. Jack L.
McInnis, Ray
Meredith, Mr. C. S.
Miles, Mrs. Carl
Moon, James
Moon, Jimmie
Morgan, Dr. Z. V., Jr.
Morris, Dr. T. A., Jr.
Morse, Mr. and Mrs. W. H.

Napier, Bobby
Newsom, Mrs. Larry
Noble, Mrs. Mary
Nowell, Bobby
Nowlan, Mr. and Mrs. G. F. III

Odom, Mrs. Harry
Owen, Mrs. R. G.

Pate, Earl III
Patrick, Miss Faye
Pendergrast, Mrs. W. C.
Phillips, W. F.
Pittman, Mrs. David
Pond, Francis
Preslar, Melvin
Prevatte, Robert Lee
Pruden, Michael

Quick, Mrs. Terry

Rassette, James
Rassette, Richard
Reese, Mr. and Mrs. I. B., Sr.
Rhodes, Dorothy Ann
Rhodes, Raymond
Robertson, Edwin
Robertson, Robert
Robinson, Mrs. L. C.
Robinson, Mrs. Robert W.
Rose, John Thomas
Rose, Miss Judith
Rosser, Mrs. H. G.
Rosser, Tommy

Screws, J. M.
Sellers, Mrs. Tony
Shaw, Mrs. Jim
Shaw, Mr. and Mrs. Steve
Sherrer, Mrs. H. C.
Short, O. H., Jr.
Simmons, Mrs. Mary
Smart, Randy
Smith, Mrs. Elvin
Smith, Mrs. John Marshall
Smith, Miss Lura
Snipes, Dr. Richard
Steele, Mrs. Bill
Stephens, Daniel G., Jr.
Stewart, James M., Jr.
Strickland, Miss Tommye

Tarbou, Mr. and Mrs. Harold
Taylor, Richard Wayne
Teal, Miss Sharon
Thomas, Mrs. Dwinell Winfrey
Thomas, Mrs. J. E.
Thompson, Herndon
Thompson, Mrs. Kenneth

Waddell, Mrs. Robert

Wade, Rose
Wallace, Sherie
Waldrop, Mrs. James Terry
Walton, Douglas
Walton, James
Ward, Marion
Warr, Michael
Wells, Susan
White, Gratten
White, H. L., Jr.
Williams, Henry K.
Wood, Mr. and Mrs. O. G., Jr.

# College Students

Robert Beck
Box 354
Wingate College
Wingate, N. C. 28174

Michael Charles Bolch
N. C. State University
Raleigh, N. C. 27607

Miss Jan Carter
Box 3513
Appalachian State University
Boone, N. C. 28607

Kathy Cockman
Brewer 408
Meredith College
Raleigh, N. C. 27600

Miss Cindy Carroll
Meredith College
Raleigh, N. C. 27600

Miss Melissa Corbin
Belk Dorm, Box 1570
Wingate College
Wingate, N. C. 28174

J. R. Crooke
802 E. Third St.
Redwood Apt. 3
Greenville, N. C. 27834

Miss Kathryn Crooke
Box 5513
Atlantic Christian College
Wilson, N. C. 27893

Miss Ann Gaddy
Box 1143
Appalachian State University
Boone, N. C. 28607

Miss Shirley Garrison
Box 3851 — Doughton Hall
Appalachian State University
Boone, N. C. 28607

Miss Donna Greene
Mercy Hospital
Charlotte, N. C. 28200

Eddie Greene
100 Sharon Circle
W. Columbia, S. C. 29169

Miss Lynn Griggs
Hart Dorm
Mt. Olive Junior College
Mt. Olive, N. C. 28365

Miss Jennifer Halyburton
Box 820, Garrett Dorm
East Carolina University
Greenville, N. C. 27834

Terry Howe
P. O. Box 15390
N. C. State University
Raleigh, N. C. 27607

Miss Diane Jernigan
808 Walker Ave., Apt. 4
Greensboro, N. C. 27403

Hap Jernigan
Lees-McCrae College
Banner Elk, N. C.

Miss Cheri McGowan
Box 1513
Wingate College
Wingate, N. C.

Miss Martie Ormsby
Box 177
Peace College
Raleigh, N. C. 27600

Van Pruitt
06 Avery
University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill, N. C. 27514

Miss Beth Queen
Box 309
Meredith College
Raleigh, N. C. 27611

Bob Ritter
Rt. 1, Box 258-D
Sunset Harbor
Bolivia, N. C.

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Rivers
Box 753
Waynesville, N. C. 28786

Frank Roofe, III
P. O. Box 3070, Bowie Hall
Appalachian State University
Boone, N. C. 28607

Miss Stephanie Scarborough
1277 Fletcher Hall
East Carolina University
Greenville, N. C. 27834

Miss Becky Thomas
P. O. Box 452
Meredith College
Raleigh, N. C. 27611

Gary Ward
Box 16391, Sullivan Hall
N. C. State University
Raleigh, N. C. 27607

Curtis Womble
Box 509
Banner Elk, N. C.

# Budget 1972

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|---|---|
| I. World Missions | |
| A. Cooperative Program (24%) | $23,909.00 |
| B. Associational Missions | 2,000.00 |
| II. Salaries | |
| A. Pastor | 10,000.00 |
| B. Associate Minister | 6,480.00 |
| C. Music Dir., Organist | 3,000.00 |
| D. Secretary | 4,160.00 |
| E. Part-time Secretary | 120.00 |
| F. Janitor | 3,432.00 |
| G. Janitorial Help | 200.00 |
| H. Nursery | 500.00 |
| I. Substitute Organist | 75.00 |
| III. Other Personal Expense | |
| A. Convention | |
| 1. Pastor | 400.00 |
| 2. Associate Minister | 100.00 |
| B. Denominational Retirement | 500.00 |
| C. Employer's S. S. Tax | 950.00 |
| D. Pastor's Utilities | 1,000.00 |
| E. Pastor's Car Expense | 1,200.00 |
| F. Ass't. Minister's Car Expense | 600.00 |
| G. Insurance Staff | 680.00 |
| H. Ass't. Minister's Housing All. | 920.00 |
| IV. Organizational and Educational | |
| A. Sunday School | |
| 1. Literature & Supplies | 2,000.00 |
| 2. Vacation Bible School | 100.00 |
| B. Sunday School, Activities | 400.00 |
| C. Church Tr. Pro. Lit. Supp. Act | 150.00 |
| D. Youth Activities & Assemblies | 900.00 |
| E. Assemblies (youth excluded) | 200.00 |
| F. W. M. U. | |
| 1. Mission Friends | 100.00 |
| 2. Girls in Action | 160.00 |
| 3. Acteens | 160.00 |
| 4. Baptist Women | 300.00 |
| 5. Royal Service | 350.00 |
| G. Church Music Ministry | |
| 1. Senior Choir Music | 175.00 |
| 2. Graded Choir Music | |
| a. Youth | 200.00 |
| b. Junior (Inc. folders) | 75.00 |
| 4 & 5 | 25.00 |
| 3. Special Service Music | 125.00 |
| 4. Senior Choir Social | 150.00 |
| 5. Tuning Organ, Pianos | 250.00 |
| H. Church Library | 100.00 |

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|---|---|
| V. Service Ministries | |
| A. Radio, newspaper, Audio | $ 250.00 |
| B. Subscriptions | 300.00 |
| C. Postage, Printing, Office Supplies, Church Directory | 3,000.00 |
| D. Stewardship Promotion | 400.00 |
| E. Revival, Pulpit Supply | 600.00 |
| F. Flowers | 100.00 |
| G. Auditing & Bonding Fees | 150.00 |
| H. Retirement (Dr. Willis | 1,500.00 |
| I. Benevolence | 400.00 |
| J. H.H.S. Grads & Nurses | 100.00 |
| K. Communion Supplies | 25.00 |
| L. Boy Scouts | 50.00 |
| M. Senior Citizens | 100.00 |
| N. Special Dinners, Refreshments | 100.00 |
| O. Christmas Gifts, Staff | 200.00 |
| VI. Buildings and Equipment | |
| A. Utilities | 4,000.00 |
| B. Insurance | 950.00 |
| C. Fuel | 2,500.00 |
| D. Laundry, Dry Cleaning | 100.00 |
| E. Janitor Supplies | 300.00 |
| F. Repairs, Main. Bldgs. & Equip. | 3,100.00 |
| VII. Sanctuary Building Fund | 15,000.00 |
| TOTAL | $99,621.00 |

# Church Covenant

Having been led, as we believe, by the Spirit of God, to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour and on the profession of our faith having been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, we do now in the presence of God, angels, and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another as one body in Christ.

## FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF THIS CHURCH

We engage, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this church, in knowledge, holiness, and comfort; to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines.

## AS CHRISTIAN STEWARDS

To contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the gospel through all nations.

## ALONE AND AT HOME

We also engage to maintain family and secret devotions; to educate our children religiously; to seek the salvation of our kindred and acquaintances.

## BEFORE THE WORLD

To walk circumspectly in the world; to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements and exemplary in our deportment; to avoid all tattling, backbiting, and excessive anger; to abstain from the sale and use of intoxicating drinks as a beverage; and to be zealous in our efforts to advance the kingdom of our Saviour.

## TOWARD ONE ANOTHER

We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love; to remember each other in prayer; to aid each other in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling and courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offense, but always ready for reconciliation, and mindful of the rules of our Saviour, to secure it without delay.

## WHEN WE MOVE

We moreover engage that when we move from this place, we will as soon as possible unite with some other church, where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's word.

## "O THOU WHOSE HAND HATH BROUGHT US"

"For this Thy house we praise Thee,
Reared at Thine own command,
For every generous spirit
For every willing hand:
And now within Thy Temple
Thy glory let us see,
For all its strength and beauty
Are nothing without Thee.

"And oft as here we gather,
And hearts in worship blend,
May truth reveal its power,
And fervent prayer ascend:
Here may the busy toiler
Rise to the things above;
The young, the old be strengthened,
And all men learn Thy love."

Words of Hymn by: *Frederick W. Goadby*

# DATE DUE

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